

European Rule of Law Mechanism: input from Slovenia

2026 Rule of Law Report

(1) Information on developments and measures taken to implement each of the recommendations addressed to your Member State in the 2025 Rule of Law Report

1) Recommendation on corruption track record

Judicial reform passed in November 2025 (further addressed below) takes important steps to improve the functioning of courts and the prosecution service. Investigating corruption remains a top priority of the Slovenian police, who carry out activities in accordance with the implementing plan for the ministerial directions and mandatory instructions for prioritising the detection and investigation of corruption offences issued in 2023.

Supreme State Prosecutor's Office is implementing a project to strengthen prosecutors' capacities to investigate and prosecute serious economic and financial crimes, including a pilot cooperation with a financial expert to assess its effectiveness. Throughout 2025, state prosecutors have continued to receive training aimed at improving results of investigations and prosecutions of corruption-related criminal offences. Prosecutors also participated in specialised expert seminars and events. Cooperation with OLAF and EPPO has proceeded smoothly and in a timely manner.

2) Recommendation on further safeguards to protect journalists

In September 2025, Slovenia adopted the new Media Act (ZMed-1) that strengthens editorial independence and journalistic autonomy, alongside media pluralism, transparency of media ownership, and public funding, as well as introduces a dedicated framework for assessing media concentrations.

Regarding journalists' protection, Slovenia also made progress by advancing legislative measures aimed at addressing strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs). On 28 January 2026 the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the Act on Protective Measures against Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (ZZUSTOJU) to effectively address SLAPPs. The focal point for providing relevant information on available support measures was already established within the Ministry of Justice in 2025.

3) Recommendation on public service media (financing and independence)

In December 2025, Slovenia amended the Radio and Television Corporation of Slovenia Act (ZRTVS-1), improving stability of the public service media financing, and its independence. Slovenia also continued legislative reforms to reinforce institutional and financial independence of the Slovenian Press Agency (STA), thereby strengthening the overall legal framework for media freedom and pluralism.

(2) Information on:

- a. developments that are relevant for updating and following up on the assessment of the topics covered in the respective country chapter of the 2025 Report, including possible clarifications**
- b. any other new developments not already covered under points (1) and (2)a. that you consider relevant**

I. Justice Systems

A. Independence

On 21 November 2025, the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter: National Assembly) adopted the new Courts Act (hereinafter: ZS-1¹), the new Judges Act (hereinafter: ZSod²), Amendments to the Judicial Council Act (hereinafter: ZSSve-A³), and the Act Amending the State Prosecution Service Act (hereinafter ZDT-1F⁴). All of them will apply from 1 January 2027, while some provisions will already enter into force earlier. The main objectives of this reform are to increase efficiency, transparency and accountability of the judicial system by better balancing workload among courts and optimising the use of human resources within the judiciary, with the aim of ensuring equal protection of parties' rights across the country regarding duration of proceedings. The judiciary has been thoroughly involved in the process.

The new system will enable a more even distribution of workload among judges, easier replacement of absence, and greater specialization, thus improving conditions for faster resolution of cases, a more uniform case law and a more transparent court management. Cases will be assigned to judges via information system (to be operational within two years of ZS-1 entering into force), which will strengthen impartiality and fairness of proceedings. District court will become the basic organizational level of first-instance courts, and local courts will serve as external departments operating in local environment. A single title for first instance judges - district judge - will be introduced.

An important emphasis is paid to the president of the court, who is responsible for efficient court management (mandatory regular internal control over the work of court administration, shorter term of office, only one reappointment at the same court, suspension).

ZS-1 also brings greater transparency to court decisions. In addition to the publication of decisions by the Supreme Court and higher courts, first-instance decisions in which the main issue had been decided upon, and which are important for strengthening legal certainty and uniform case law, will also be published.

A possibility of psychological assistance for judges and court staff is being introduced, which is important for long-term stability and quality of decision-making.

In 2026, an intensive implementation stage will take place, involving the adjustment of secondary legislation, court procedures, case registers, and information systems.

ZSSve-A regulates the mandate of Judicial Council members and their election insofar as they are elected by judges. It aligns the powers of the Judicial Council with ZS-1 and ZSod, and amends provisions on disciplinary proceedings. The Act stipulates a single term of office for Judicial Council members, without the possibility of re-election. It also stipulates instances when a member's mandate ends early, upon appointment to a higher judicial position (unless they were elected on a candidate list from among all judges) or upon appointment as president or vice-president of the court. Regarding explanation of Judicial Council decisions, the Act stipulates that they must contain an assessment of all objective criteria and a reasoned statement of decisive reasons for their fulfilment by the selected candidate or, where there are several candidates, an explanation of reasons for which the selected candidate best meets the objective

¹ Available [here](#).

² Available [here](#).

³ Available [here](#).

⁴ Available [here](#).

criteria for selection.

ZDT-1F introduces a single title for first-instance state prosecutors - district state prosecutors. This simplifies the structure and enhances transparency of state prosecution system, and contributes to greater efficiency in work organization of state prosecutor's offices at first instance. In several provisions, ZDT-1F refers to ZSod. State prosecutors of all ranks will be able to appear before district courts. State prosecution service will be performed in ranks of District State Prosecutor, Senior State Prosecutor and Supreme State Prosecutor (or in corresponding Counsellor positions). In accordance with the amended Article 25 of ZDT-1, a person meeting the general requirements may be appointed as District State Prosecutor, provided they also meet the special condition for appointment to the post of a district court judge under ZSod.

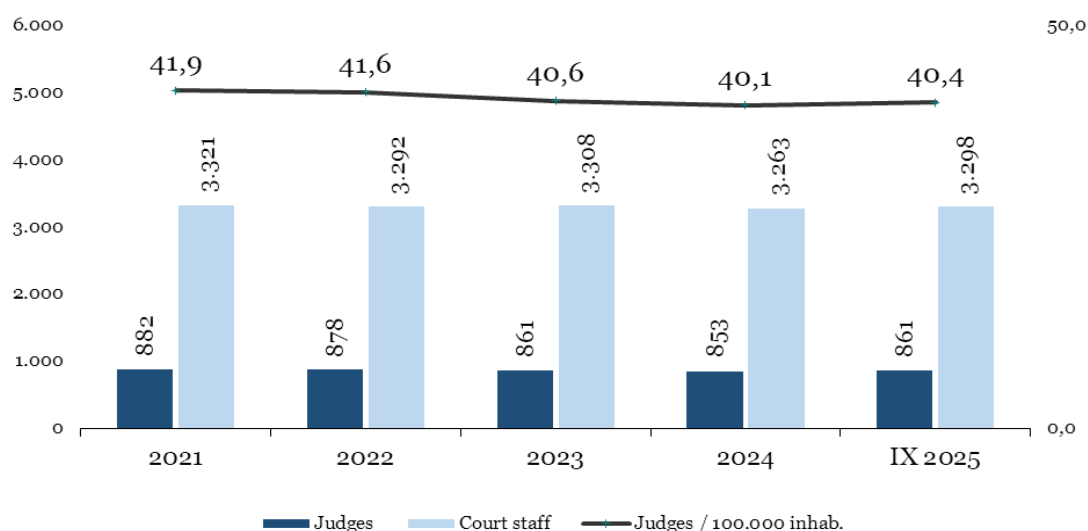
Legal basis is also established for providing professional psychological assistance and support to state prosecutors and prosecutorial staff. Regarding conditions for appointing European Prosecutors and European Delegated Prosecutors, minimum required level of knowledge of the working language of the EPPO is set at B2 of Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. This aligns the language requirement with comparable arrangements at EU level.

B. Quality of justice

Human resources of the judiciary on 30 September 2025

	Secretary general, Directors	Senior judicial advisors	Judicial assistants	Registrars	Typists	Other court staff
2015	20	517	502	534	947	657
2016	19	543	538	504	948	650
2017	19	549	539	499	944	654
2018	19	576	573	495	934	669
2019	20	593	588	505	937	671
2020	18	597	593	499	930	683
2021	18	624	595	500	893	691
2022	16	611	591	500	885	690
2023	15	617	588	498	881	709
2024	15	621	586	494	842	705
IX 2025	15	610	588	533	826	726

Judges and court staff



In 2025, significant progress was made with regard to staffing of state prosecutor's offices. Recruitment procedures were successful, with 40 state prosecutors appointed, including 18 new ones. Currently, 228⁵ of 268 state prosecutors' posts are filled, which is 5,5% more than at the end of 2024, presenting the highest number of state prosecutors to date.

Budget adopted for all courts amounts to 290,1 million euros for 2026, which is 27,3 million euros higher than the funds provided for 2025, or 27,6 million euros higher than estimated realization for 2025. The biggest rise in spending by the courts in 2025 is recorded in expenditures for salaries and goods and services. Rise in salaries is mainly due to newly adopted legislation for the public sector, while the rise in goods and services is mainly due to higher costs of logistic services, as well as legal aid.

In agreement with representatives of the judges, new, higher classifications of judicial functionaries have been established in the salary grades, effective from 1 January 2025. The salary increase will be implemented gradually until 1 January 2028 for all public employees, including judges. Values of salary grades will be subject to annual adjustments, with the methodology for such adjustments explicitly defined by law. Should an agreement not be reached through negotiations, the values of salary grades will be adjusted by 80% of the increase in the cost of living. The new salary system will ensure a more appropriate relative comparability of salaries among legislative, executive and judicial functionaries and includes the mechanism for preventing real decline in salaries of public employees and functionaries.

Ministry of Justice launched a project to analyse the state of infrastructure in the justice system (courts segment) with guidelines for actions until 2030, and a new strategy was set out to resolve spatial problems of courts in Ljubljana with the possibility of purchasing buildings already constructed there for the courts.

In 2025, preparatory work continued in the interministerial working group (established by the Ministry of Justice in 2024) on systemic solutions to enhance protection of officials within judicial authorities, and enable judicial institutions to operate more safely and effectively.

All key technical resources and working conditions for the State Prosecutor's Offices were satisfactorily ensured. Modernisation and upgrading of electronic office equipment (e.g. dictation tools and desktop scanning devices), and the procurement of equipment for use in courtrooms (hardware and software for the electronic presentation of evidence) are planned. Among the longer-term objectives is, in particular, integration of AI into evidence analysis procedures (a project of the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office).

Digitalisation

Digitalisation of EU cross-border judicial cooperation is well underway in Slovenia. So far, the process includes IT experts, judges, prosecutors, court staff, representatives of service providers, and representatives of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry for Digital Transformation. Mandatory use of e-communication between competent authorities in the EU, as first introduced in May 2025 by the recast Regulation on the service of documents and Regulation on the taking of evidence in civil and commercial matters, has been fully operational in Slovenia within deadline.

Preparations have been underway for the system of exchange of e-evidence in criminal matters, as August 2026 approaches and the Regulation on e-evidence will come into force. The e-evidence working group at the Ministry of Justice is preparing normative basis, whereas the IT teams of the Supreme Court and Supreme State Prosecutor's Office are preparing for the operation of e-evidence reference implementation system, developed by the European Commission, in a timely manner. For service providers who will be directly involved in the e-exchange, a 3rd e-CODEX access point (apart from the ones at the Supreme Court and at the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office) will be established at the Ministry for Digital Transformation in 2026. In the long term, in line with the Commission's recommendations and following the example of other Member States, Slovenia will establish a single e-CODEX access point system.

Slovenia is advancing toward adopting ECRIS-TCN software. Provided by eu-LISA, it is undergoing testing and everything required is being prepared to put it in production use. Some technical challenges will be overcome with the assistance of eu-LISA. The necessary amendments to Act on Cooperation in

⁵ According to the MFERAC system dated 7 January 2026.

Criminal Matters with Member States of the European Union (ZSKZDČEU-1) are scheduled to be adopted at the extraordinary plenary of the National Assembly (9 – 11 February 2026).

Moreover, Slovenia is continuing with efforts toward developing digitalized workflow in courts: e-filing, case management with decision-making, e-delivery, and measuring timeframes.

E-filing is available either through the web portal (functionalities: general submissions or submissions in specific procedures like land register) or via secure electronic mailbox of the court (e-Odložišče). Submissions are transferred to electronic case management systems through validation applications for civil and criminal cases (eVA, Čakalnica). **E-delivery** is enabled according to procedural rules for different types of cases (criminal, civil).

Civil enforcement on the basis of an authentic document is an informatised procedure where claims can be filed online, within a specific legislative framework. The possibility of **e-communication** (e-filing, e-service) is provided to enforcement agents, notaries, lawyers, insolvency agents, as well as parties and other participants in court proceedings, via the courts' web portal eSodstvo. Except for civil enforcement on the basis of authentic document, a digital certificate is required in civil enforcement, land registry, insolvency, and family cases.

Certain types of documents must be submitted to the court in **e-form only** (land register, insolvency cases, court registry cases, family matters for social work centres). E-communication is possible in all family and succession cases, proceedings conducted under the Act on the Judicial Protection Procedure for Former Holders of Qualified Liabilities of Banks (ZPSVIKOB-1), and e-filing of a motion for leave to review was enabled in proceedings where legislation allows for leave to review under the Civil Procedure Act. In 2025, e-communication was enabled in all administrative disputes brought before the Administrative Court.

Full transition to e-communication in other civil and commercial cases for courts of all instances and for participants in these proceedings remains a priority in 2026 (most courts of first instance are expected to transition fully in March 2026). In 2025, extensive training was carried out for users to work effectively with new functionalities related to electronic case management, especially regarding functionalities of application for validating and receiving incoming consignments to the registry (eVA), as well as new functionalities of the application, allowing the production of e-documents, e-signatures and e-service of these documents (iPUND application).

Application for viewing and annotating **electronic court cases (eSpis)** is currently in use in district courts in insolvency cases. Its use in civil and criminal procedure is being tested. Development of the system enabling external qualified users to access electronic court files (eSpis) has started in 2025.

Speech-to-text system (TIPKO) is implemented in all courts. Text recognition is aided by AI and used in combination with recording of court hearings. It also enables dictation (e.g. of drafts of court decisions), reducing time needed for transcribing, thus reducing duration of court procedures and disburdening court staff. In 2025, real-time subtitling of court hearings for hearing impaired users was introduced in 19 courtrooms across Slovenia. IT system that enables recording of court hearings and publishing them online (ASOD) has been established.

The IT solution for recording and managing financial obligations in the judiciary (**eObligations**) was launched for criminal proceedings in 2025, currently in production at one court and being tested by others.

Part of **Recovery and Resilience Plan**, multiple projects are ongoing at the Supreme Court. In 2025, with assistance of external contractors, several IT solutions were developed and will be introduced into production environment and delivered for use in the first half of 2026:

- As part of new knowledge base functionalities, two (2) IT tools are being developed. Firstly, **eSessions** is a new all-encompassing work environment tailored specifically to the needs of the judiciary, which will offer support to Supreme Court Judges and their assistants: overview of case-load, facilitated access to documents, sharing of documents among judicial panel, text editor specifically designed for needs of drafting decisions and other judicial documents. Secondly,

Knowledge database is a new system that will incorporate three (3) AI-powered modules: Search tool, facilitating judicial research in internal and external legal databases; Analysis of relevant legal issues in documents, submitted to the court; Identification of the core of decision and keywords for a facilitated publication and subsequent search of decisions in internal (eSessions) and external databases.

- Within the project Environment, Citizen and Business Friendly eCourt, a new Judiciary Security Framework and a new eCourt portal were developed. The **Judiciary Security Framework** enables unified management of users and their rights across various judicial information systems. Its functions include client identification, registration within the Judiciary Security Framework, system login, authorization and data modification. E-operations in judicial proceedings (such as submission of e-filings and e-service of documents) are available only to users included in Judiciary Security Framework. The **eCourt** portal will act as a single digital gateway to e-services of the judiciary. Upgrades have been made to building blocks of the judiciary's information ecosystem, integrated into electronic case management; specifically to the horizontal component for e-filing and service, and eCase File, a horizontal module that allows users to access and display e-stored content in multiple ways within cases.
- The Supreme Court is implementing the project Development of New Tools and Functionalities for Supporting Court Management, conducted under the Recovery and Resilience Plan. In 2025, the information system for judicial administration (**e-SU Register**) was upgraded. It is currently being enhanced with additional functionalities for managing personnel records. This will ensure standardization and digitalisation of management of personnel files of employees in the judiciary - all relevant documents and data of Central Human Resources Records gathered in one place. Upgrades were made to data warehouse and business intelligence system.

Concerning criminal justice, e-communication in criminal procedure between courts, state prosecutors' offices (and other participants) has not yet been implemented due to technical issues. Launching of pilot testing of e-communication between Kranj District State Prosecutor's Office and Kranj District Court that has been planned to start in early 2025 has been postponed to 2026. Several activities were carried out in 2025 at the Prosecutor's Offices and the Police. Testing of e-submission of criminal complaints with attachments is underway and has been successfully implemented, also at the largest District State Prosecutor's Office in Ljubljana. Test e-operations for e-communication between State Prosecution and the Police were introduced in 2025. As of 15 December 2025, the system covers the entire territory of Slovenia, apart from Ljubljana District State Prosecutor's Office, where e-exchange of criminal complaints with attachments is carried out only for less complex cases. Specialised State Prosecutor's Office and criminal complaints submitted by National Bureau of Investigation, have not yet been included in e-operations testing with the Police.

In the second half of 2025, based on proposals from the Office of the State Prosecutor General, Ministry of Justice prepared a **Proposal for Amendments to the State Prosecutor's Rules**, adding some specific provisions related to e-communication between the police, state prosecutors' offices and courts from the perspective of state prosecutors' offices.

Introduction of AI into day-to-day prosecutorial operations which reduces time required to produce transcripts of audio recordings of main hearings and other court sessions, is taking place. The Supreme State Prosecutor's Office is developing a programme that will use AI only as support tool for prosecutors (**Virtual Assistant**) and is intended to assist in preparation of draft documents, contribute to consistent application of prosecutorial policy, and enable analysis and retrieval of information from complex cases and extensive datasets related to individual cases. The project is co-financed by the Commission under the Recovery and Resilience Facility. The virtual assistant programme will contribute to legal certainty and enforcement of principle of equality before the law, *inter alia*, by enabling effective analysis of existing sentencing practice and helping prosecutors to apply criminal prosecution policy more consistently across the entire territory of the country. Its use is expected to commence on 1 July 2026.

Training

The Judicial Training Centre (hereinafter: the Centre) continued its work in 2025 in accordance with annual work programme, adopted by the Minister of Justice, following consideration of the Expert Council, composed of representatives of judicial authorities, Judicial Council, Association of Judges,

Association of State Prosecutors, and law faculties. Through the Expert Council, each representative can influence content and priorities of the Centre's work programme for the following year.

Throughout the year the Centre prepares individual training programmes in close cooperation with representatives of main target groups of each training. Programmes are developed based on proposals and identified needs of judicial authorities, while also considering national and EU legislative developments, recommendations and commitments arising from government's action programmes, international resolutions, and relevant reports. The annual programme covers a wide range of legal fields and is publicly available on Centre's [website](#).

In cooperation with departments of the Ministry of Justice, the Centre continued its efforts to strengthen the position of the child in court proceedings by training activities addressing the role of the child as victim or witness, with emphasis on Barnahus model, as well as specialised training for juvenile offenders, awareness on protection and right of victims, etc.

Training for lay judges was conducted in 2025 for the first time. The Centre provided substantial support to efforts to establish child-friendly justice system through education, training, and awareness-raising on the special status of children involved in judicial proceedings, with particular attention to children with various vulnerabilities.

In November 2025, the Forum on Financial and Economic Crime was held, organised by Association of State Prosecutors of Slovenia and the Centre, comprehensively addressing issues relating to corruption offences and other forms of economic crime.

In 2025, the Centre's training activities remained open not only to judicial bodies (judges, state prosecutors, state attorneys, court staff), but also to lawyers, insolvency administrators, notaries, social services centres, forensic experts, and other professionals. This broad participation aimed to encourage interdisciplinary dialogue and further strengthen the rule of law as a comprehensive and integrated system.

Internal training sessions were organised by the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office and the Supreme Court. Individual training activities for prosecutors addressed a range of topics, including corruption and economic crime, sexual offences, human trafficking, prostitution, juvenile delinquency, etc.

C. Efficiency of the justice system

Exclusion of evidence in criminal matters

In agreement with the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Justice proposed a research project in the framework of state financed projects from the field of justice. Over the next two years, researchers would analyse the effects of exclusion of evidence on results of judicial cases (currently, there is a nearly unanimous preliminary assessment from expert organisations that no longer are warranted). Analysis would be made by studying concrete judicial files. Such an analysis is needed, as there is currently no statistic available on exclusion of evidence, i.e. in how many cases proposals to exclude the evidence are given, how often evidence is excluded (also ex officio), what is the effect of exclusion of evidence upon the final deliberations in concrete judicial cases etc. Results of the analysis could serve as a basis for further decisions on regulation of exclusion of evidence. The majority of stakeholders supports the existing regulation and believes it should not be changed without prior analysis.

Court management

In 2025, one of two priority areas announced at the Opening of the Judicial Year was **court management** (the other being digitalization). Throughout the year courts focused on strengthening court-management activities and improving compliance with time frames. The Supreme Court supported first-instance and higher courts:

- cooperated closely with courts in identifying solutions for organization of work, reducing workload in specific legal areas, ensuring adequate number of judges;
- recommended that three higher courts carry out targeted reviews of work in selected commercial crime cases with significantly long case durations;

- advised higher courts to strengthen oversight of court management in first-instance courts, particularly regarding monitoring of time frames and dynamics of case resolution;
- prepared amendments to rules on registering cases, enabling more precise and fair recording of caseload and workload (in use from 1 January 2026);
- adopted the beforementioned Criteria for the Quality of Work of Courts, intended to encourage court management and judges in introducing good practices into daily work;
- two working groups have recently been established to prepare a proposal for case-weighting (one for criminal and one for civil and administrative cases) with the purpose to improve the overview of courts' and judges' workloads and to contribute to a more balanced distribution of cases and resources between courts and judges.

Supreme Court's Annual Conference on Best Practices in the Judiciary was dedicated to court management.

Duration of procedures in 2025 remained at a similar level as in 2024, both for important and other cases (8,8 and 0,8 months, respectively).

In 2025, the Supreme Court requested higher courts to review the operation three (3) district courts concerning selected criminal cases (commercial crime) with exceptionally long durations and delays. Supervision has established that unjustified delays had occurred in some of the cases. Within the framework of court-management supervision, higher courts verified that first-instance courts introduced mechanisms to prevent similar delays in the future, and an official work supervision was ordered for certain judges.

Case management is continuously monitored by the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office and heads of state prosecutor's offices continuously monitor case management and adopt appropriate measures to ensure timely resolution of cases. Vast majority of cases are resolved within the prescribed time limits and in accordance with Criteria for the Quality of Work of State Prosecutors for the evaluation of prosecution service and relevant statutory provisions, e.g. the Criminal Procedure Code (ZKP), the Act on the Recovery of Assets of Illicit Origin (ZOPNI) and ZDT-1.

Supreme State Prosecutor's Office has also begun active implementation of a project aimed at strengthening institutional and professional capacities of prosecutors' offices and state prosecutors for effective investigation and prosecution of serious and complex economic and financial crimes, including corruption, fraud, abuse of office, money laundering and related predicate offences, thereby improving effectiveness and consistency of prosecution practice. The project is financed by the Commission under the EU's Technical Support Instrument. Measures are envisaged with the aim of obtaining:

- recommendations for legislative amendments based on best practices from other EU Member States, as well as a gap analysis to improve the Slovenian legal framework for prosecution of economic crime;
- recommendations for organisational changes within prosecutors' offices and improvements in cooperation with other agencies relevant to the fight against economic and financial crime;
- exchange of best practices with other Member States to enhance the capacity of state prosecution service to combat economic crime;
- practical support from financial experts in cases of economic crime, followed by an assessment of effectiveness;
- training strategy for state prosecutors in the field of economic and financial crimes.

II. Anti-Corruption Framework

A. Institutional framework

There were no changes to the institutional framework for the prosecution of corruption in 2025. The National Assembly adopted a new Resolution on the Prevention of Corruption of the Republic of Slovenia in April 2025. On that basis the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption (hereinafter: CPC) adopted the Action plan in July 2025.

In January 2025, the Integrity Plan and the Risk Register at the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office were amended. Employees were invited to participate by submitting comments or suggestions for improvements. In November 2025, the working group responsible for implementation of integrity measures at the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office was reconstituted, and a new authorised officer for the Integrity Plan was appointed.

The current legislative regulation of secret surveillance measures is the result of a series of Decisions by the Constitutional Court. The probability (evidentiary) level required for such measures has been unified, and their hierarchy established according to the level of intrusion in the rights of the individual. Time periods for the measures are also aligned to the Constitutional Court's demands.

Level of conviction before national courts in Slovenia is above 90%, even for the Specialised State Prosecutor's Office that deals with organised and white-collar crime with international element.

The first reports on activities set out in the new Action Plan for the Implementation of the Resolution on the Prevention of Corruption (adopted in July 2025, hereinafter: the Action Plan) will be due by the end of February 2026. More information will be available after that date.

Budget for the CPC for 2026, was set in the amount of 3.229.099 euros.

In the beginning of 2026, the total number of CPC employees was 51, while the number of contracts on standstill lowered to three (3) as of 1 February 2026. The CPC has to employ two additional persons within this budget to meet the new regulation on the conflict of interest regarding public sector employees.

B. Prevention

In the week of the International Anti-Corruption Day 2025, the CPC organized a round table with high-level experts from Slovenia and Italy on revolving doors, highlighting the necessity of establishing safeguards to prevent revolving doors in Slovenia, as only a few are currently present in the Slovenian system. The round table was well visited by the representatives of state bodies, as well as general public.

There were 60 participants in person, while so far additional 50 watched its recording on the CPC website. The CPC conducted 95 trainings, in-person, online or hybrid for public sector employees on various topics, such as lobbying, conflict of interest, integrity breaches, gifts etc. reaching more than 7.000 persons. In 2025, additionally more than 6.000 persons also accessed training on the above-mentioned topics presented in the CPC virtual classroom on the CPC web site.

As part of its oversight and processing of concrete cases, the CPC adopts recommendations with the overarching aim of enhancing the integrity in the public sector. The recommendations are nevertheless focused on the improvement of procedures and systemic operation of an entity/person, which can be of use to a broader public, not just the entity/person processed by the CPC in that concrete case. In order to raise awareness, the CPC publishes the recommendations on its [website](#).

In 2025, the CPC, in cooperation with the Public Payment Administration, performed significant amendments on the transparency tool **ERAR** (platform for public access to the information on all public expenditures) in order to improve the quality of the information presented in it.

Due to technical issues with ERAR, launch of CPC's upgraded **Corruptio** internal operational system, which will improve connectivity of the CPC databases was postponed to 2026.

In 2025, the new Public Employees Act (ZJU-1⁶) was adopted, and entered into force on 1 January 2026. According to ZJU-1, all public employees fall under CPC's jurisdiction when it comes to the conflict of interest. The legislation entered into force on 1 January 2026, rendering that the same legislative provisions on the conflict of interest stipulated in the Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act (ZIntPK) now apply to all public employees and office holders. This could present additional administrative burden for the CPC, yet was not foreseen as a financial consequence. The CPC plans to employ two additional persons in 2026 in order to meet a likely increase of procedures relating to conflict of interest with public employees. It was agreed that if the CPC's budget becomes insufficient in terms of salaries, it will request additional funds from the government.

In view of the ZJU-1, CPC will amend its Systemic Recommendation on the Conflict of Interest.

As previously reported, the Reporting Persons Protection Act (ZZPri) introduced several measures to protect whistleblowers and encourage the reporting of violations, including corruption. The system of internal and external reporting channels was established in accordance with the law.

The CPC granted the status of a protected reporting person to 23 individuals (second paragraph of Article 20 of ZZPri). According to the law, the legal entities that are obliged to establish an internal reporting channel and the external reporting bodies have to submit their statistical data to the CPC by 1 March 2026 for the previous year, so the process of gathering information has just started.

Besides offering protection, the main activity of the CPC was to provide consultations and recommendations to all stakeholders regarding the efficiency of reporting channels and whistleblower protection, as well as generally raising awareness that whistleblowers play a major role in detecting and curbing corruption and other wrongdoings. The CPC organised several trainings for persons of trust appointed in the entities that were obliged to establish an internal reporting channel, and other educational activities on the topic of whistleblower protection. It conducted an analysis of internal reporting channels in municipalities and determined that 66 of them did not establish an internal reporting channel according to the law. The CPC provided additional assistance and recommendations, which ensured that all municipalities now have such channels in place.

In 2026, the CPC issued a recommendation related to major infrastructure projects, also calling for adoption of a framework law for major infrastructure projects that would regulate the entire process from planning to monitoring project implementation. The law should clearly define what is considered a major project and stipulate that special laws only supplement the framework law. It should include public procurement provisions, while the public procurement procedures should be conducted by the authority responsible for the project, without external contractors. To prevent corruption, the declaration of ownership structure should be extended to include ownership of all companies affiliated with the bidder, while the law should stipulate a needs assessment with alternative implementation options developed, taking into account impacts on sustainability, costs, and operations. A methodology for monitoring and supervising the process should be defined, including risk assessment and measures for risk management. Ongoing reviews of individual project phases should be ensured with regard to legality, transparency, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness.

The Action Plan refers to most of the above-mentioned areas since it specifies the risks identified in those areas, as well as measures to mitigate those risks, providing the planned time-frame, designated bodies and performance indicators. Risks are also linked to the goals of the Resolution for the Prevention of Corruption. For more information, please see the attached unofficial translation of the Action Plan⁷.

In 2025, state authorities were actively involved in the preparation of the Resolution for the Prevention of Corruption, especially the Ministry of Public Administration and the Ministry of Justice. This included representatives in the interdepartmental working group with the CPC. Equally important was the cooperation of state authorities in developing measures to manage risks of integrity violations and the occurrence of corruption, included in the new Action Plan. By the end of February 2026, all state

⁶ Available [here](#).

⁷ Annex I

authorities, including those to which the Action Plan applies, will have to report to the CPC on the implementation of activities to carry out the measures.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Public Administration, Secretariat-General of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, and the CPC, text of the Protocol on the Conduct of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Managing Corruption Risks (hereinafter: the Protocol) was drafted. It includes institutions regulated by ZIntPK; conflicts of interest, acceptance of gifts, business restrictions, incompatibility of functions, reporting on assets, and lobbying. The text of the Protocol, as establishing preventive mechanisms for managing corruption risks in government work, is expected to be adopted by the Government in the beginning of 2026; with the adoption of the Protocol and the measures included in it, two GRECO recommendations not yet been implemented (received by Slovenia in the 5th evaluation round that began in 2017) will be addressed. In recommendation iii, GRECO recommended that an integrity plan be established in respect of the government, as an overarching structure to the plans existing in each ministry, while in recommendation vi, GRECO recommended developing an organisational strategy and practices to improve the management of conflicts of interest within the government, including through responsive advisory, monitoring and compliance mechanisms.

ZJU-1 updates the provisions governing the performance of other activities and the related conflict of interest (Article 111). Pursuant to ZJU-1, a public employee shall notify their superior no later than eight (8) working days prior to commencing any other activity intended to generate income or other material gain. The same obligation applies where the public employee intends to engage in scientific, research, educational, or publishing activities in the field in which they perform work and duties pursuant to their employment contract. Upon receipt of such notification, the superior shall, by written decision, prohibit the public employee from performing the other activity if they assess that the activity is contrary to the statutory prohibition of competition or a non-competition clause under the legislation governing employment relationships; that the performance of the activity could affect the impartial performance of official duties; that, in performing the activity, the public employee could misuse information obtained in the course of performing official duties which is not publicly available; or that the performance of the activity would be detrimental to the reputation of the authority.

Officials holding the positions of Secretary-General and Director-General in a ministry, Director of a body within a ministry or a government service, Head of an administrative unit, and Director of a local self-government administration or Municipal Secretary shall also notify their superior no later than eight (8) working days prior to commencing any other activity. The superior shall, by written decision, prohibit the performance of the other activity if they assess that the aforementioned grounds exist.

Ministry of Public Administration continued to implement two multi-year action plans (already adopted in the end of 2024): the Plan to increase competition in public procurement (2025–2030) and the Public procurement digital transformation plan (2025–2030). The two aim to further raise transparency and competition, strengthen professionalisation and analytics, enhance market access for suppliers, and upgrade e-procurement capabilities. Both plans include several measures which are being implemented.

They also complement other, separate ongoing measures related to public procurement:

- to simplify execution of procedures through the unification of three procurement portals under the Ministry of Public Administration,
- expand training through the Public Procurement Academy and occasional ad-hoc seminars (the ongoing project [ProfJN](#)),
- reinforce corruption-risk awareness and
- improve data governance through the Skrinja project which will be established early in 2026.

C. Repression

Data is based on information from the registry and record-keeping system of the state prosecution service and relate to the number of recorded criminal offences. State prosecutors' offices data is maintained through manual records, in cooperation with the prosecutors responsible for individual corruption case files, both at Specialised State Prosecutor's Office and at individual district state prosecutor's offices. Possibility of certain discrepancies cannot be excluded. In addition to Specialised State Prosecutor's Office, district state prosecutor's offices also deal with prosecution of corruption-related criminal

offences, primarily in their less serious forms.

Data for 2025 according to the Specialised State Prosecutor's Office:

Article in Criminal Code	REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION	INDICTMENTS		FIRST-INSTANCE JUDGMENTS				SANCTIONS		
		DIRECT INDICTMENT	INDICTMENT AFTER INVESTIGATION	CONVICTION	ACQUITTAL	DISMISSAL	ADJUDICATED CASES - convictions, acquittals and dismissals combined	Sanctions in first-instance convictions - IMPRISONMENT	Sanctions in first-instance convicting judgments - SUSPENDED SENTENCE	end of year pending complaints
241	3	0	8	21	0	0	21	19	2	125
242	5	0	3	14	0	0	14	14	0	41
261	88	0	55	6	0	2	8	1	5	9
262	41	2	31	10	0	0	10	0	10	17
263	7	1	2	8	2	0	10	0	8	2
264	8	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
total	152	3	116	59	2	2	63	34	25	196

Till November 2025, Specialised State Prosecutor's Office received criminal complaints relating to 64 criminal offences against natural persons in connection with classical corruption-related criminal offences: 37 under Article 241, 23 under Article 242, one (1) under Article 261, and three (3) under Article 262 of the Criminal Code (KZ-1⁸). With regard to legal persons, criminal complaints were received for 12 criminal offences, of which 10 were filed under Article 241, one (1) under Article 242, and one (1) under Article 262 of KZ-1.

Requests for investigation were filed in respect of 137 criminal offences against natural persons: one (1) under Article 241, four (4) under Article 242, 84 under Article 261, 35 under Article 262, six (6) under Article 263, and seven (7) under Article 264 of KZ-1. With regard to legal persons, a request for investigation was filed in respect of one (1) criminal offence under Article 242 of KZ-1.

Indictments were filed in respect of 104 criminal offences against natural persons: three (3) under Article 241, three (3) under Article 242, 55 under Article 261, 27 under Article 262, and 16 under Article 264 of KZ-1. No indictment was filed against legal persons.

At first instance, convictions were rendered for 44 criminal offences against natural persons: 21 under Article 241, 14 under Article 242, one (1) under Article 261, four (4) under Article 262 of KZ-1, and four (4) under Article 263 of KZ-1. No acquittals or dismissals were issued, nor were any judgments rendered against legal persons.

Sanctions imposed at first instance:

- for the criminal offence under Article 262 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of one (1) year (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 750 euros was imposed;
- for the criminal offence under Article 261 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of one (1) year (with a three-year probation period) and a fine of 2.000 euros was imposed;
- for two criminal offences under Article 241 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of nine (9) months (with a three-year probation period) and a fine of 1.000 euros was imposed;
- in the same case, multiple sanctions were imposed for a larger number of criminal offences: for a continued criminal offence under Article 263 of KZ-1 (covering two acts), a suspended sentence of three (3) months (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 175 euros; for a criminal offence under Article 262 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of three (3) months (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 200 euros; for another criminal offence under Article 262 of KZ-1, a suspended

⁸ Available [here](#).

sentence of three (3) months (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 200 euros; for a further criminal offence under Article 262 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of three (3) months (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 200 euros; for a criminal offence under Article 263 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of three (3) months (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 165 euros; for incitement to a criminal offence under Article 263 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of three (3) months (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 210 euros; for a criminal offence under Article 263 of KZ-1, a suspended sentence of three (3) months (with a one-year probation period) and a fine of 160 euros;

- in another case, multiple sanctions were imposed for a larger number of continued criminal offences: for a continued criminal offence under Article 241 of KZ-1 (covering 17 acts), a sentence of one (1) year and six (6) months imprisonment and a fine of 10.000 euros was imposed; for a continued criminal offence under Article 242 of KZ-1 (covering 13 acts) and for aiding and abetting a criminal offence under Article 241 of KZ-1, a single sentence of one (1) year and six (6) months imprisonment and a fine of 9.665,70 euros was imposed;
- for criminal offence under Article 242 of KZ-1, a sentence of six (6) months imprisonment and a fine of 1.000 euros was imposed.

During the reporting period, no judgments were issued at the second instance. None of the cases were related to implementation or use of EU funds.

At the Department for the Investigation and Prosecution of Officials with Special Powers, cases were handled during the reporting period against six (6) persons employed by the Police for the criminal offence of accepting a benefit for unlawful intermediation under second paragraph of Article 263 of KZ-1. In respect of these cases, a criminal complaint was dismissed against one (1) person, a request for investigation was filed against one (1) person, indictments were filed against two (2) persons, one (1) person was convicted by a non-final judgment and sentenced to a suspended sentence and an ancillary fine, and one (1) person was convicted by a final judgment and sentenced to a suspended sentence and an ancillary fine. They also handled cases against three (3) persons employed by the Police for the criminal offence of accepting a bribe under the first paragraph of Article 261 of KZ-1. In two of these cases, no decision had yet been taken by the state prosecutor, while in one (1) case, the criminal complaint was dismissed.

During the reporting period, district state prosecutor's offices handled the following additional corruption-related cases in pre-trial and criminal proceedings:

- at first instance, a non-final conviction was issued, whereby the court imposed on the defendant a suspended sentence with an ancillary fine in total amount of 900 euros for the criminal offence of giving a bribe under second paragraph of Article 262 of KZ-1;
- judgments were delivered following indictments against five (5) natural persons for the criminal offences of accepting a bribe under Article 261 or giving a bribe under Article 262 of KZ-1 in connection with the performance of motor vehicle technical inspections. Convictions were handed down against four (4) natural persons, three (3) of which are already final, while in respect of one (1) person, a dismissal judgment was issued following the withdrawal of indictment;
- Maribor District State Prosecutor's Office handled five (5) cases relating to criminal offences of giving a bribe under Article 262 or accepting a benefit for unlawful intermediation under Article 263 of KZ-1; three (3) were concluded, with two (2) convictions and one (1) acquittal;
- indictment was filed charging a prisoner serving a custodial sentence with the criminal offence of giving a bribe under first paragraph of Article 262 of KZ-1;
- one (1) case is pending concerning a criminal offence under Article 263 of KZ-1 relating to perceived attempted influence for unlawful intervention;
- another (1) case is pending (investigation relating to the criminal offence of accepting a bribe under Article 261, as well as the criminal offence of giving a bribe under Article 262 of KZ-1).

During the reporting period, Specialised State Prosecutor's Office handled four (4) cases meeting the criteria for high-level corruption (involving suspects who are senior state officials, ministers, state secretaries, members of parliament, mayors, judges or prosecutors). In these cases, a criminal complaint was received, a request for investigation was filed, an indictment or other prosecutorial act was lodged, or a judgment was issued at first or second instance. These cases have been related to criminal offences

under Articles 261-264 of KZ-1.

During the reporting period, Specialised State Prosecutor's Office also handled 10 cases involving prominent suspects who are alleged to have committed criminal offences with elements of corruption. The cases have been related to criminal offences under Article 240, and Article 257 of KZ-1, respectively.

The Specialised State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia is also handling cases in which the following proceedings are ongoing, also relating to either Article 240 or Article 257 of KZ-1.

At the Department for the Investigation and Prosecution of Officials with Special Powers, a large number of criminal offences of abuse of official position or official rights under first paragraph of Article 257 were handled during the reporting period, as well as one (1) case concerning the criminal offence of misappropriation of public funds under Article 257a of KZ-1, involving eight (8) persons, in which no prosecutorial decision has yet been taken. In these cases, no high-level corruption was identified, either in terms of benefits obtained or benefits demanded; however, systemic corruption was identified.

III. Media Pluralism and Media Freedom

During the reporting period, Slovenia adopted several important legislative and policy measures aimed at strengthening media freedom and pluralism, as well as protection of journalists, while also continuing reforms related to the independence and sustainable financing of public service media.

In September 2025, Slovenia adopted the new Media Act (hereinafter: ZMed-1⁹) that constitutes a comprehensive reform of the regulatory framework for media. ZMed-1 explicitly strengthens safeguards for editorial independence, journalistic autonomy and media pluralism, and enhances transparency obligations in line with European standards, namely the European Media Freedom Act (EMFA). It also introduces clearer rules on the disclosure of media ownership, including indirect ownership and beneficial owners, and requires media service providers to publicly disclose information on state advertising and other public funding received. Public authorities and entities under dominant public influence are required to report annually on all forms of media-related expenditure, including advertising, sponsorships, commissioned content and donations, with consolidated data published by the ministry responsible for the media.

ZMed-1 establishes a dedicated framework for the assessment of media concentrations, separate from general competition law procedures. Slovenian Competition Protection Agency (AVK) is the competent authority for assessing media concentrations, with explicit legal safeguards ensuring sufficient budgetary resources are provided to enable effective exercise of its powers. Based on clearly defined criteria, concentrations that could significantly undermine media pluralism or editorial independence may be prohibited.

Regarding media regulatory authorities, the Agency for Communication Networks and Services (AKOS) retains its role as the independent regulator responsible for the licensing and supervision of audiovisual media services. Additionally, ZMed-1 maintains procedural safeguards for decision-making and provides for the involvement of the Council for Radiodiffusion (SRDF) in specific licensing procedures, reinforcing transparency and accountability in regulatory processes.

In protecting journalists, Slovenia made progress by advancing legislative measures aimed at addressing strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs). In 2025, a draft anti-SLAPP law was submitted to the National Assembly after public consultation. On 28 January 2026, the Proposal for the Act on Protective Measures against Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (hereinafter: ZZUSTOJU¹⁰) was adopted by the National Assembly, thus transposing Directive (EU) 2024/1069 on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded claims or abusive court proceedings. This is a significant step forward in protecting anyone disclosing irregularities in the public interest from SLAPPs. ZZUSTOJU protective measures and procedural safeguards, including early dismissal of manifestly unfounded claims, securities for the costs, compensation for damage, and deterrent sanctions. Journalists, media outlets and other public watchdogs fall within the scope of protection.

Anti-SLAPP focal point was established at the Ministry of Justice. Its core task is to raise public awareness about the misuse of legal instruments aimed at restricting the work of journalists and civil society activists who act in the public interest in the fields of fundamental rights, environmental protection, and ensuring public access to information, as well as to provide assistance in such cases. The contact point will also collect data on manifestly unfounded or abusive judicial proceedings directed against public participation, and submit this information annually to the European Commission.

With regard to public service media, Slovenia pursued the recommendations of the 2025 Rule of Law Report concerning the need to ensure adequate, stable and independent financing of the public broadcaster. In December 2025, the National Assembly amended the Radio and Television Corporation of Slovenia Act (ZRTVS-1E). Amendments aim to improve the financial sustainability of public service broadcasting, including more stable public budget funding arrangements for minority programmes, as well as cultural and music production, while further clarifying governance structures.

⁹ Available [here](#).

¹⁰ Available [here](#).

Moreover, Slovenia has continued legislative procedures to strengthen the institutional, editorial and financial independence of the national press agency (Slovenska tiskovna agencija – STA). A draft Law on the Slovenian Press Agency (ZSTAgen-1¹¹) was prepared by the Ministry of Culture with the objective of addressing long-standing structural weaknesses in the existing framework, in particular regarding definition and financing of its public remit, transparency of public funding, and safeguards against political interference. The Government approved the proposal in December 2025 and submitted it to the National Assembly under shortened legislative procedure. The law has not yet been adopted.

At the end of the reporting period, the Government adopted the new Rules on state aid for media, in accordance with the new ZMed-1. The procedures for notifying the new state aid and de minimis scheme are currently ongoing.

Overall, Slovenia has strengthened its legal framework for media freedom and pluralism through the adoption of a ZMed-1, advanced legislative measures to protect journalists against abusive litigation, and continued reforms aimed at safeguarding the independence and sustainable financing of public service media.

¹¹ Available [here](#).

IV. Other institutional issues related to check and balances

A. Law-making process

Being responsible for promoting better regulation and reducing administrative burdens, the Ministry of Public Administration ensures, within the framework of inter-ministerial coordination, compliance with the principles of the Resolution on Normative Activity. In particular, the Ministry of Public Administration oversees the consistent application of evidence-based policy-making, the use of impact assessments and the conduct of transparent public consultations. In this context, the Ministry of Public Administration monitors that draft legislation is systematically published on the e-Democracy portal for a sufficiently long consultation period, enabling the transparent and meaningful participation of stakeholders and the general public in policy development and decision-making processes.

Throughout 2025, the Ministry of Public Administration continued to provide targeted training for legislative drafters on the use of the impact assessment methodology integrated into the MOPED application which provides a single digital framework for the preparation of legislation and supports a uniform, structured approach to legislative drafting. These training activities also serve as an important source of feedback, enabling the early identification of practical challenges faced by drafters and the timely development of appropriate solutions to further improve the legislative process. The use of MOPED application became mandatory at the beginning of 2026, aimed to further strengthen evidence-based policy-making and enhance transparency, consistency and overall quality of the legislative process, including its implementation phase.

On 17 October 2025, the Act on Publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia was adopted and published in Official Gazette of the RS, No. 83/25 on 28 October 2025. It entered into force on 12 November 2025. The purpose of the Act is to simplify and digitalize the procedure for publishing regulations and other acts in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia. In accordance with Article 9 of this Act, and with the introduction of the digital system, municipalities in the Republic of Slovenia are now able to publish all their acts promptly and free of charge. Free access to these publications constitutes an important aspect of legal certainty, as all local community regulations will be published in the national Official Gazette, representing a significant step towards the further digital transformation of the legal system of the Republic of Slovenia.

B. Independent authorities

On 3 February 2026, dr. Simona Drenik Bavdek was appointed as head of the Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia, which also serves as Slovenia's National Human Rights Institution with A-status under Paris Principles, and as the National Preventive Mechanism. After the position had been vacant (since 24 February 2025), the National Assembly confirmed her as the sixth Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia, following the proposal of the President of the Republic of Slovenia.

Budget allocated to the Ombudsman is generally in line with the institution's expressed needs. Should additional statutory mandates be entrusted to the institution including the functions of Ombudsperson for Children, independent monitoring under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the role of Independent National Rapporteur on combating trafficking in human beings, and independent monitoring of the implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum this should be accompanied by corresponding increases in budgetary allocations and staffing levels. For a number of years, the Ombudsman has consistently advocated for the establishment and/or strengthening of these oversight and monitoring mechanisms in Slovenia in accordance with applicable international standards and treaty obligations.

During the reporting period, the Ombudsman encountered no obstacles in accessing information required for the performance of its mandate, expressly guaranteed under Article 6 of the Human Rights Ombudsman Act (hereinafter: ZVarCP¹²).

In presenting an Annual Report to the National Assembly, the Human Rights Ombudsman assessed that more than 100 previously issued recommendations remain unimplemented yet still relevant, having not

¹² Available [here](#).

been acted upon by the National Assembly, the Government, or other public authorities. Some of these have been reiterated for several years, which is concerning. The Ombudsman expressed special concern regarding a number of recommendations that have been rejected by the Government, most of which relate to the rights of various vulnerable groups.

In 2025, the Ombudsman handled more than 6.500 cases, representing a 3.64% increase compared to 2024, including 3.681 individual complaints. Among 207 substantiated complaints, the Ombudsman identified 238 violations of human rights, fundamental freedoms, and other irregularities. In addition, there were 147 cases in the field of child advocacy, in which no violations are formally determined but which are nevertheless treated as substantiated complaints.

In approximately one quarter of cases, the Ombudsman found a violation of the principle of good administration (Article 3 of ZVarCP), followed by findings of violations of equality before the law (Article 14 of the Constitution), the right to social security (Article 50 of the Constitution), the principle that Slovenia is a state governed by the rule of law and a social state (Article 2 of the Constitution), undue delay in proceedings (Article 24 of the ZVarCP), the right to health care (Article 51 of the Constitution), the rights of persons with disabilities (Article 52 of the Constitution), equal protection of rights (Article 22 of the Constitution), the principle of fairness (Article 3 of ZVarCP), the right to judicial protection (Article 23 of the Constitution), and the status and special rights of the Roma community in Slovenia (Article 65 of the Constitution), among others.

According to the Ombudsman's findings, the authority most frequently responsible for violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms or for other identified irregularities in 2025 was the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, followed by municipalities, the Ministry of Solidarity-Based future, the Ministry of Health, social work centres, the Ministry of Education, the Pension and Disability Insurance Institute, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, district courts, the Ministry of Justice, and other bodies.

C. Accessibility

The General Administrative Procedure Act contains rules on the transparency of administrative decisions. Authorities are required to maintain records on the handling of administrative matters, which include data on the number of administrative cases, the manner in which they are resolved, the applicable time limits, and legal remedies used. Authorities are required to submit these reports to the Ministry of Public Administration, which, on the basis of the data received, prepares and publishes an annual final report.

The General Administrative Procedure Act lays down a general rule requiring administrative decisions to be reasoned. The party always has the right to a reasoned decision.

D. Civil society enabling framework

On 4 December 2025, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia [adopted](#) a new Strategy of the Development of Non-Governmental Organizations until 2030 and a Volunteering Development Strategy until 2030, as a continuation of the previous joint strategy until 2023. Strategies envisage the implementation of numerous measures worth a total of over 69 million euros.

Three (3) strategic objectives of the Strategy of the Development of NGOs¹³ are:

1. Strengthening cooperation of the state and local communities with NGOs in creating, implementing and monitoring regulations and policies (promoting enhancement of the role of NGOs in the planning and drafting of strategic and development documents; support for advocacy organizations; support for horizontal and regional hubs; support for content networks)
2. Strengthening efficiency, transparency and stability of public funding of NGOs (examining the granting of statuses; online publication of instruments of incorporation and annual reports; standardisation of practice of administrative units regarding registration of associations; taking over public services and providing high-quality services in the public interest; cooperation of ministries with NGOs and other stakeholders in the field of environment, nature, space and culture; proactive promotion of transparent work of NGOs, dissemination of results and communication of social impacts; efficient management of tender procedures and examining

¹³ Available [here](#).

options for digitising public tender procedures; economical management of the Fund for the Development of NGOs, encouraging diversification of resources for the work of NGOs).

3. Strengthening the capacity for social innovation and development of service in NGOs (encouraging employment in NGOs; development of useful and efficient services; co-financing of own contribution in EU and EFTA tenders).

Strategic objectives of the Volunteering Development Strategy¹⁴ are:

- to create a stable and sustainable environment for the operations of volunteer organisations (promotion of diversified financing models and the provision of support for the stable operation of the organisations)
- strengthen their operational and management capacities (funding a supportive environment, ensuring quality mentoring and training of volunteers)
- increase the number of volunteers and the quality of their experience (training, mentoring, efficient management, promotion of volunteering)
- greater visibility and importance of volunteering (greater presence of volunteering content in the media and educational and public institutions, national research into volunteering and analysis of types of volunteer work in social assistance)
- development of volunteer programs that tackle social challenges (encouraging diverse types of volunteering, enhancement of cooperation with public institutions).

Strategies were prepared in an inclusive and transparent manner, with participation of representatives of ministries, non-governmental and volunteer organizations, academia, private sector and the wider interested public. Recommendations and suggestions collected through public consultations and thematic workshops were included, which further contributes to its substantive integrity and legitimacy.

Regarding the statement in note No. 151 of the 2025 Rule of Law Report - Country Chapter on the rule of law situation in Slovenia (Legal challenges by some CSOs in relation to the annulled Spring 2023 public call for funding are still pending before courts.), in 2025, eight (8) procedures were finally concluded before the courts in which civil society organizations were unsuccessful in challenging the annulment of the Public Call for Strengthening Active Citizens' Rights and Empowering Non-Governmental Organizations in this area. Lawsuits against the decisions of the Ministry of Public Administration were dismissed by the court.

E. Rule of law culture

In 2025, numerous activities were carried out to bring the judiciary closer to the public. Public trust is relatively low but has been improving in recent years.

Impact of public's perception of the judiciary is reflected at various levels, from willingness of parties to participate in court proceedings, respect for court decisions, to the acceptance of courts as prospective employers. A large part of public's distrust stems from misconceptions about the functioning of the judiciary and its role in a democratic society, which is why Ministry of Justice pays special attention to informing the public and familiarizing young people with the role, mission and functioning of the judiciary.

Ministry of Justice continues to strengthen understanding of the role of judiciary and the importance of rule of law through public and transparent communication. Within the scope of its powers, it regularly informs the public about legislative and systemic issues in the field of justice.

In 2025, particular attention was paid to explaining the judicial reform measures and legislative changes in a way understandable to the general public, and to explaining the powers and responsibilities of individual judicial institutions. In this way, a contribution was made to reducing misconceptions about the functioning of the judicial system.

Ministry of Justice presented an analysis, data and international comparisons for the justice field to the public, promoting discussion based on verifiable information. In cooperation with other stakeholders, it

¹⁴ Available [here](#).

supported educational and awareness-raising activities on fundamental legal values, human rights, and the role of rule of law in a democratic society.

In 2025, the Supreme Court organized its second Open Day, at which it presented the work of judges and characteristics of judicial profession, the role of court staff, international cooperation and work and materials of Central Judicial Library. An exhibition to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the *De jure belli ac pacis* was organised, with a roundtable on challenges of modern international law.

The Supreme Court pays special attention to bringing the judiciary closer to young people. In 2025, it carried out visits to secondary schools and invited secondary school students to visit the court palace. Pupils were given the presentation of function of a judge and participated in various moot court simulations, taking the roles of judges, prosecutors and attorneys, giving them the opportunity to experience court procedures and judicial environment in practice. In 2025, students from Faculty of Law of University of Maribor and European Faculty of Law of New University visited the Supreme Court.

Courts of first instance continued their activities to bring judiciary closer to the public - holding open days, during which visitors (especially young people) are introduced to functioning of the court. Visitors were particularly interested in simulations of the main hearing (in criminal and civil proceedings) and were also introduced to various types of court proceedings and the roles of court employees.

Cross-pillar elements: cross-border rule of law issues related to the Single Market

The challenges in the internal market faced by both individuals and businesses are addressed by the SOLVIT network.

As regards the publication of your written input, please indicate whether you¹⁵:

☐ **Consent**

¹⁵ Should you wish to amend the input submitted ahead of the Report's publication, please simply indicate so to the Commission services which will ensure that the correct version is published.