

Annual Rule of Law Report - Council of Europe contribution

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

2026

Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG I)

Slovak Republic

I Justice System

CEPEJ

The European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) regularly collects data on judicial systems concerning efficiency and quality of the justice system. In the framework of the CEPEJ Study for the EU Justice Scoreboard, CEPEJ prepares Country profiles annually, including [Slovak Republic](#).

The 2024 data have been collected, quality checked and sent to DG-JUST in the framework of the 2026 EU Justice Scoreboard. The publication of the country profiles based on 2024 data will depend on final acceptance of the CEPEJ Study by DG-JUST. The CEPEJ Secretariat (christel.schurrer@coe.int) remains at the disposal of European Commission for any question related to these data.

EXECUTION OF JUDGMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Official statistics on the execution of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights are published in the Committee of Ministers [Annual reports on the execution](#) (next edition to be published in March 2025). The Department for the Execution of Judgments can be consulted for any question on statistics: DGI-Execution@coe.int.

Length of proceedings

[Maxian and Maxianova](#) (44482/09) (standard supervision): excessive length of civil proceedings and lack of an effective remedy in this respect (violations of Article 6 §1 and Article 13).

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2025\)406](#); [DH-DD\(2024\)379](#)

[Javor and Javorova](#) (42360/10) (standard supervision): excessive length of proceedings concerning a compensation claim attached to criminal proceedings or excessive length of criminal proceedings (violation of Article 6).

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2022\)1337](#); [DH-DD\(2021\)989](#)

Transparency of administrative decisions and scope of sanctions (incl. their publication and rules on collection of related data) and judicial review (incl. scope, suspensive effect)

[Zoltán Varga group](#) (58361/12) (enhanced supervision): surveillance operation without adequate legal safeguards against abuse, due to the practically unfettered power exercised by the Slovak Intelligence Service (violation of Article 8). The Court noted, *inter alia*, the lack of clarity of the applicable jurisdictional rules on ensuring compliance by the Slovak Intelligence Service with the relevant provision on destruction of primary material obtained in breach of the law, and the fact that the storage of the material resulting from the implementation of the surveillance warrants concerning the applicants was subject to confidential internal rules, which were both adopted and applied by the Slovak Intelligence Service, with no element of external control.

[Plechlo](#) (18593/19) (enhanced supervision, in Zoltan Varga group): lack of adequate and effective safeguards against abuse in respect of a person randomly affected by the implementation of a secret surveillance warrant in the context of criminal proceedings (Article 8).

Latest decisions: [CM/Del/Dec\(2024\)1492/H46-32](#)

Latest submissions from the authorities: [DH-DD\(2025\)947](#); [DH-DD\(2025\)488](#)

Latest submissions from the applicants: [DH-DD\(2025\)1048](#); [DH-DD\(2025\)763](#); [DH-DD\(2025\)212](#)

[Ringier Axel Springer Slovakia, a.s. \(no. 4\)](#) (26826/16) (standard supervision): disproportionate imposition of administrative fine in 2012-2015 on a multimedia publishing house by the Slovak Broadcasting Council for broadcasting a programme containing a celebrity's statements on his drug use.

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2026\)112](#); [DH-DD\(2025\)166](#)

II Anti-corruption framework

GRECO

[Ad hoc Report \(Rule 34\)](#) (28 August 2025)

[Addendum to the Second Compliance Report](#) (4 September 2025)

5th round: Preventing corruption and promoting integrity in central governments (top executive functions) and law enforcement agencies

VENICE COMMISSION

[CDL-AD\(2025\)041](#) – Opinion on Law No. 109/2025 amending the Law “on non-profit organisations providing services of general interest” and other related laws.

III Media pluralism

N/A

IV Other institutional issues related to checks and balances

PACE

Monitoring committee

Slovak Republic | [Doc. 16316](#)

On 23 June 2025, the Monitoring Committee agreed to request an urgent opinion of the Venice Commission on the (draft) amendments to the Constitution of the Slovak Republic as well as an opinion on Law No. 109/2025 amending the Law “on non-profit organisations providing services of general interest” and other related laws.

These opinions were respectively endorsed ([CDL-AD\(2025\)040](#)) and adopted ([CDL-AD\(2025\)041](#)) during the plenary session of the Venice Commission on 9 and 10 October 2025.

COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Letter to parliament on draft law on non-profit organisations

[Letter](#) from the Commissioner for Human Rights to the National Council of the Slovak Republic of 4 April 2025, published 9 April 2025. The Commissioner asked parliamentarians to refrain from adopting a draft law on non-profit organisations or any amendments which are not fully in compliance with the European Convention on Human Rights. Following a letter about the draft law in [May 2024](#), the letter of April 2025 addresses additional concerns about proposals to amend it. These relate mainly to the foreseeability of the law and the necessity of restrictions in a democratic society, which are required by the Convention.

The Commissioner noted that the adoption of a law that fails to meet human rights standards would add to the disconcerting pressure on civil society, which he already highlighted following his [visit in July 2024](#).

In view of a backlash against the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights because of its engagement with the draft law, the Commissioner also encouraged parliamentarians to speak out in defence of the Centre's independence and to acknowledge the clear legitimacy of its engagement with this legislation.

Statement on constitutional amendments

[Statement](#) by the Commissioner for Human Rights of 13 June 2025 in relation to constitutional amendments (print no. 733, tabled on 7 March 2025). In the statement, the Commissioner called on parliamentarians not to adopt amendments to the Slovak Constitution that undermine general human rights protections, or which weaken the human rights of specific groups in society.

One central proposal he highlighted is to the effect that the Slovak Republic retains sovereignty in matters falling within the broadly defined notion of 'national identity', especially 'fundamental cultural-ethical questions'. He expressed concern that this proposal conflicted with the principle that nothing in a state's internal law, including constitutional law, may be invoked to justify an act or omission which is in breach of international law. This includes the obligation under the European Convention of Human Rights to give full effect to the rights and freedoms defined in that instrument. Furthermore, it extends to all other international treaties to which the Slovak Republic is party, including other Council of Europe treaties such as the European Social Charter, and global human rights instruments. He noted that seeking to disapply specific rights because they touch upon 'national identity' would be fundamentally incompatible with the Slovak Republic's international obligations. He also commented on other amendments, especially those impacting on LGBTI people.

VENICE COMMISSION

Forthcoming - Slovak Republic - Joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe on the draft legislative amendments regarding the criminal offence of abuse of law.

[CDL-AD\(2025\)040](#) - Urgent Opinion on the draft amendments to the Constitution.