



RULES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CIVIL COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS AT THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COUNCIL

I. Purpose (amend. - act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018, amended - act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) The Civil Council of the Supreme Judicial Council (CC of the Supreme Judicial Council) carries out its activities with the aim of realizing the constitutionally guaranteed right of citizens, as the primary source of state power, to participate in the management of the state, in the decision-making processes and implementation of civil control in the area of "Justice".

II. Areas of interaction between the Civil Council to the Supreme Judicial Council and the Supreme Judicial Council (amended - act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018, amended - act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023)

1. (amend. - act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018, amended - act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) With the establishment of the CC to the SJC, the Supreme Judicial Council expresses its will to develop sustainable mechanisms for consultation and interaction with civil society structures engaged in strengthening and reforms in the area of "Justice" in the development of policies and the evaluation of their impact.

2. (amend. - act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) The area of interaction of the Supreme Judicial Council with the Civil Council to the SJC is the overall activity of the Supreme Judicial Council, which is of public interest or which needs expert support from the organizations - members of the Civil Council to the SJC.

III. Composition of the Civil Council to the Supreme Judicial Council

1. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) Members of the CC to the SJC are professional and civil non-governmental organizations carrying out activities for the public benefit and dealing with topics in the area of "Justice".

2. (amended and supplemented - act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021, amended - act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) New members in the CC to the Supreme Judicial Council are accepted by the CC to the SJC, whose decision shall be provided for the information of the Supreme Judicial Council. Candidates for members of the CC to the SJC submit in writing a registration form "Civil Council to the Supreme Judicial Council".

2.1. (new - Act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) Voting to admit a new member of the CC to the SJC is carried out after hearing a representative/s of the candidate for member at a

meeting of the CC to the SJC. It is not allowed to vote "for", "against" or "abstain" in advance for the admission of a new member of the Civil Council to the SJC with a written opinion (based only on information submitted in the Registration form in item 2).

3. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) Membership in the CC of the SJC is terminated by submitting an application to the CC of the SJC, which accepts it for information and informs the Supreme Judicial Council.

4. (amend. - act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021, suppl. - act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) Membership in the CC to the SJC is automatically terminated in case of 5 (five) consecutive non-appearances (in person or online) in its meetings. An organization can be authorized for one meeting of the CC of the SJC with up to three authorizations from other organizations - members of the CC of the SJC, which gives the authorized organization the right to vote in the meeting for which it is authorized with four votes. Membership in the CC to the SJC is terminated by an act of the CC to the SJC in the following cases:

4.1 in the presence of received and/or provided data and/or information with false and/or misleading content during the application.

4.2 in case of an unethical attitude towards the activities of the CC of the SJC and/or its individual members and/or in case of behavior that makes further membership of an organization incompatible with the goals and functioning of the CC of the SJC; Incompatible with the goals and functioning of the CC to the SJC is any behavior of a representative/s of an organization - a member of the CC to the SJC, which threatens the existence and functioning of the CC to the SJC and/or contradicts its goals.

4.3 In the event of a systematic violation of the Rules of Operation of the CC to the SJC, including when creating obstacles to the activities of the CC to the SJC or obstructing normal communication between its members.

5. Each organization retains its independence and right to independently address the Supreme Judicial Council.

6. (new - act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Each organization - a member of the CC to the SJC is represented by a person who is not a member of the Management Board of another organization - a member of the CC to the SJC, nor is he permanently authorized to represents her. (*This guarantees the principle of independence in voting and avoidance of personal interest.*)

IV. Functions of the CC to the SJC

1. Assists the Supreme Judicial Council in planning and implementing policies related to the statutory functions of the Supreme Judicial Council. Analyzes and evaluates the effect of their implementation.

2. Provide expertise to the Supreme Judicial Council in developing programs and projects in the Supreme Judicial Council's areas of priority.

2.1. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018, amended - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The CC to the SJC may assist the Supreme Judicial Council and other

organizations and institutions in policy developing, implementation and monitoring.

3. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018, amend. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021, amend. - act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) Prepares opinions, proposals and recommendations for the activities of the Supreme Judicial Council and all other organizations and institutions within the "Justice" area.

4. Appeals to the Supreme Judicial Council and the country's institutions in case of public cases and issues within the competence of the Supreme Judicial Council.

5. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018) Prepares opinions within the framework of the conciliation procedures when discussing changes in the legislation that affect the area of "Justice" and the application of the regulations in all areas.

6. (amend. - act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018) It works to strengthen dialogue, trust and mutual assistance between the Supreme Judicial Council, the country's institutions and the civil society.

V. Rules for operation of the CC to the SJC

1. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018, amended. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Each member of the Supreme Judicial Council has the right to participate in the meetings of the Supreme Judicial Council at the SJC. The members of the CC of the SJC participate in the meetings directly, through a proxy or through a written statement/proposal on the agenda.

2. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Each of the professional and non-governmental organizations appoints at least one representative to participate in the activities of the CC to the SJC, notifying in writing the co-chairmen/chairman of the CC to the SJC about the name /names of the representative/s by the date of the first meeting following her acceptance as a member of the CC to the SJC. In the event of a change of representative(s), notification shall be made in the same manner within 14 (fourteen) days, but no later than the first subsequent meeting.

3. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Each organization - a member of the CC to the SJC can authorize another member organization to represent it at the meetings, notifying the authorized organization and the co-chairman/chairman of the CC to the SJC, no later than one hour before the announced starting time for holding the meeting or during the meeting, if the authorizing organization participates in it, but leaves it before its end.

3.1 (new - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) In the event that the range of powers is not explicitly stated, it is considered that the authorized organization under item 3 of this section participates in the discussions at the meeting and votes at its discretion on behalf of the principal.

3.2 (new - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Each organization authorized under item 3 of this section or co-chairman/chairman of the CC to the SJC shall announce during the meeting its authorization and the range of powers, if such are explicitly indicated by the authorizer.

4. (amended - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018, supplemented by Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021, amended and supplemented by Act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) The meetings of the Civil Council of the SJC are convened by each of the co-chairs not less than once every 2 (two) months, or if necessary at the proposal of at least 5 (five) of the member organizations of the Civil Council of the SJC. An extraordinary meeting can be convened at the request of one member of the CC of the SJC, in an emergency, and the request shall be accompanied by reasoning on the necessity of holding the meeting and the written materials on the matter. The convening of meetings can also be done by each of the co-chairs separately. In the event that a member organization cannot send its representative to an extraordinary meeting, this shall not be considered an absence within the meaning of item 4, Section III.

5. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018 and supplemented by Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The agenda is determined by the co-chairmen/chairman of the CC to the SJC. An item on the agenda is not included if no written materials on the topic or written argumentation for the need for its consideration in the CC to the SJC have been provided. Exceptionally, it may include additional issues for consideration, on which written proposals have been received no later than 3 (three) days before the date of the next meeting.

5.1 (new - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Changes to the Rules of Operation of the CC to the SJC can only be made with an item expressly included for this in the agenda. (*Note: i.e, it is not allowed to change the Rules, for example, in the item "Organizational matters".*)

6. (supplemented by Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The invitation with the agenda for CC meetings to the SJC is sent to the e-mail addresses of all members of the CC to the SJC at least 7 (seven) days before the date of the meeting, and in the case of an extraordinary meeting - at least 3 (three) days before the date of the meeting.

7. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018 and supplemented by Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Changes to the previously announced agenda are not allowed, except for the cases under item 5 of this section.

8. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Experts from other interested institutions and organizations may also be invited to participate in the meetings.

9. (supplemented by Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The experts from the "Public Relations" sector of the Administration of the CC are permanent collaborators of the CC of SJC.

10. Depending on the specific topics of the meetings, other experts from the Administration of the SJC may also participate in them.

11. (amended and supplemented by Act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) The sessions of the CC to the SJC are co-chaired by the member of the Supreme Judicial Council especially chosen for this purpose and by a representative of the member organizations of the CC to the SJC, elected for a period of 1 (one) year, as of the date of their election. After the expiration of that period, the co-chairs provide a written report at a meeting of the CC to the SJC on the work done and the identified problems for the work of the CC to the SJC.

12. (suppl. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) In the procedure for selecting a natural person co-chair from the quota of non-governmental organizations, all organizations participate, except those that have expressly refused to participate, in writing. The proposed candidates participate in the meeting in person, regardless of its form of holding.

12.1 (new - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018) In the event that a co-chairman is not elected by the member organizations or by the Supreme Judicial Council, the CC to the SJC is chaired and represented by the one already elected and acting co-chairman until the election of a second co-chairman and is called the chairman of the CC of the SJC.

12.2 (new - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The mandate of the co-chairman/chairman may be prematurely terminated by an act of the CC to the SJC under the conditions of Section III, item 4 of these Rules.

13. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018) Acts of the CC to the SJC are taken by a simple majority of the organizations that are present or participate through written opinions in a meeting and are an integral part of the minutes of the meeting.

14. (supplemented by Act of the CC No. 181/07.04.2023) The vote is open and by name, and the minutes reflect the voting method of the member organizations present.

15. (suppl. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The meetings of the Civil Council to the SJC can be held in person in the building of the Supreme Judicial Council or in an online environment - with a video conference connection of the online member organizations present. Access to the Internet platform, where the online meeting of the CC of the SJC is held, is provided by the co-chairs/president, and the members of the CC of the SJC are notified by sending a link to access the online meeting to the e-mail addresses specified by the members. A sound recording is made of the meeting, the content of which is reproduced in the minutes of the meeting. The audio recording is stored by the Administration of the Supreme Judicial Council, according to the rules of the Supreme Judicial Council. At the request of a member of the SC to the SJC, access to the audio recording of the session is permitted according to the rules of the Supreme Judicial Council. The sessions of the CC of the SJC are open to the presence of journalists.

15.1 (new - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The minutes of the CC meetings to the SJC are sent to each of the member organizations after their preparation within the period determined under item 17 of this section. Their public announcement is made on the official website of the Supreme Judicial Council.

16. (suppl. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) By order, the Secretary General of the Supreme Judicial Council appoints a permanent technical assistant of the Supreme Judicial Council to the SJC, who keeps shorthand records, stores documentation and ensures technical correspondence, incl. keeps an incoming and outgoing correspondence register. The technical assistant can participate in the meetings and communication of the CC to the SJC with his instructions/clarifications regarding the Internal rules for the work of the SJC administration in case of questions and inquiries of this nature and in relation to his competences listed above in this point, in his capacity as a permanent technical assistant of

the Civil Council to the SJC.

17. (suppl. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) The minutes of the meetings are signed by the co-chairmen/chairman and the technical assistant, after which they are published on the website of the Supreme Judicial Council no later than 2 (two) months from the date of the meeting.

18. The participants in the CC of the SJC do not receive remuneration for the meetings.

19. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018) The acts of the CC to the SJC are reviewed by the plenary session of the Supreme Judicial Council within 30 (thirty) days. The plenary session of the Supreme Judicial Council issues an opinion within a period of no later than 2 (two) months.

20. (repealed - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018)

21. (amend. - Act of the CC No. 97/06.07.2018 and suppl. - Act of the CC No. 145/23.04.2021) Statements to the media on behalf of the CC to the SJC can be made jointly or separately by the two co-chairs or the chairman of the CC to the SJC.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

§1. The Civil Council of the Supreme Judicial Council was established on the basis of decisions of the Supreme Judicial Council under Protocol No. 53/13.11.2012 and Protocol No. 1/10.01.2013.

§2. The present Rules for the operation of the Civil Council were adopted at a meeting held on 11.02.2013 under protocol No. 2; amended and suppl. At a meeting held on 25.06.2013 according to protocol No. 6; amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 22.10.2013 according to protocol No. 8; amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 07.03.2014 according to protocol No. 12; amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 11.04.2014 according to protocol No. 13; suppl. at a meeting held on 11.07.2014 according to protocol No. 16; amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 19.09.2014 according to protocol No. 17; suppl. at a meeting held on 03.06.2016 according to protocol No. 28; amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 07/08/2016 according to protocol No. 29; amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 01.06.2018 according to protocol No. 49 and at a meeting held on 06.07.2018 according to protocol No. 50; amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 23.04.2021 according to protocol No. 73; amended and suppl. of meetings held on 31.03.2023 and 07.04.2023 according to protocol No. 88, amended and suppl. at a meeting held on 11.10.2024 according to protocol No. 104.