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Defendants (criminal proceedings)

Slovakia

These factsheets explain the procedure of law enforcement authorities if you are suspected of or accused of a crime.

#### Summary of the criminal process

The following is a summary of the normal stages in the criminal process in the Slovak Republic.

#### The pre-trial process consists of the following stages:

steps prior to initiation of criminal prosecution;

pre-trial preparations (investigation).

#### The trial process consists of the following stages:

examination and preliminary hearing of the indictment;

main trial;

appeal process (ordinary appeal [*odvolanie*] to a higher-instance court, further appeal [*dovolanie*] to the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic [*Najvyšší súd Slovenskej Republiky*], reopening of the case);

enforcement process, carrying out the sentence and protective measures.

**Click on the links below to find the information that you need**

[My rights during the investigation](#)

[My rights during trial](#)

[My rights after trial](#)

Last update: 02/03/2022

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