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## National ordinary courts

Slovenia

This section provides you with information on the organisation of ordinary courts in Slovenia.

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### Ordinary courts

Under Article 98 of the Courts Act, the ordinary courts in Slovenia include:

local courts (okrajna sodišča),

district courts (okrožna sodišča),

higher courts (višja sodišča),

the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia (Vrhovno sodišče) (hereinafter, the Supreme Court).

Specialised courts established by a special statute must, unless otherwise provided for by statute, have:

the status of a district court: courts of first instance whose appellate instance is a higher court of special jurisdiction,

the status of a higher court: courts of second instance which decide on appeals against the decisions of courts of special jurisdiction of first instance,

the status of a higher court: courts of first instance whose appellate instance is the Supreme Court.

### Jurisdiction of local courts

Under Article 99 of the Courts Act, local courts in Slovenia have jurisdiction in the following matters:

#### Criminal matters

To adjudicate at first instance on criminal offences that are punishable by a fine or a term of up to three years imprisonment, except where they concern criminal defamation offences committed by the press, via radio, television or other means of public information

To investigate criminal offences as described above

To perform other tasks determined by statute.

#### Civil matters

To adjudicate or decide at first instance:

In civil cases in accordance with the Civil Procedure Act

In legacy and other non-contentious matters, and in respect of the land register

In matters of the enforcement and securing of claims, unless otherwise determined by statute.

#### Other matters

To adjudicate or decide on other matters as determined by statute.

#### Legal aid

To deal with matters involving legal aid where other courts have no statutory jurisdiction.

### Jurisdiction of district courts

Under Article 101 of the Courts Act, district courts in Slovenia have jurisdiction in the following matters:

#### Criminal matters

To adjudicate at first instance on criminal offences that do not fall under the jurisdiction of local courts

To carry out an investigation or investigatory actions concerning criminal offences (as described at point 1 above)

To conduct preliminary proceedings and adjudicate at first instance on criminal offences committed by minors

To decide at first instance on the enforcement of a criminal judgment issued by a foreign court

To execute criminal judgments (arising from points 1, 3 and 4 above) and to execute the criminal judgments of local courts

To decide on permission to interfere with human rights and fundamental freedoms

To reach decisions in a pre-trial chamber (also in criminal matters falling within the jurisdiction of local courts)

To perform other tasks determined by statute

To exercise supervision in respect of the lawful and correct treatment of convicts and supervision of detainees.

Specialised departments of the (district) courts are responsible for dealing with the tasks in points 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8 in more complex cases involving organised and economic crime, terrorism, corruption and other such criminal activities.

#### Civil matters

To adjudicate and decide at first instance:

In civil matters in accordance with the Civil Procedure Act

On recognition of the decisions of foreign courts

In cases of compulsory settlement, bankruptcy and liquidation when it is within the court's jurisdiction, and in connected disputes

In disputes concerning intellectual property rights

On proposals for issuing interim measures filed prior to the commencement of a dispute, on which the court must decide in line with the rules on economic disputes or matters in which the arbitration jurisdiction has been agreed

In non-contentious proceedings in which the participants are commercial companies, partners or shareholders and members of bodies of commercial companies, for which it is necessary to apply company law.

District courts are also responsible for:

keeping the commercial register

adjudicating or deciding on other matters, where determined by statute

dealing with legal aid cases in the matters referred to in 1, 2, 3 and 4 above

providing international legal aid.

### **Higher courts**

Under Article 104 of the Courts Act, higher courts have jurisdiction in the following areas:

To adjudicate or decide at second instance on appeals against decisions of local and district courts in their territory

To decide on jurisdiction disputes between local or district courts in their territory, and on the transfer of jurisdiction to another local or district court in their territory

To perform other tasks determined by statute.

### **Legal databases**

#### **Name and URL of the database**

[Judiciary of the Republic of Slovenia](#)

#### **Is access to the database free of charge?**

Yes access to the database is **free of charge**.

#### **Brief description of content**

[Judiciary of the Republic of Slovenia](#) gives you access to several databases, such as:

Judicial system of the Republic of Slovenia

Judicial administration

Public registers (land registers, judicial register).

### **Related Links**

#### **Judicial bodies**

Last update: 02/11/2016

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