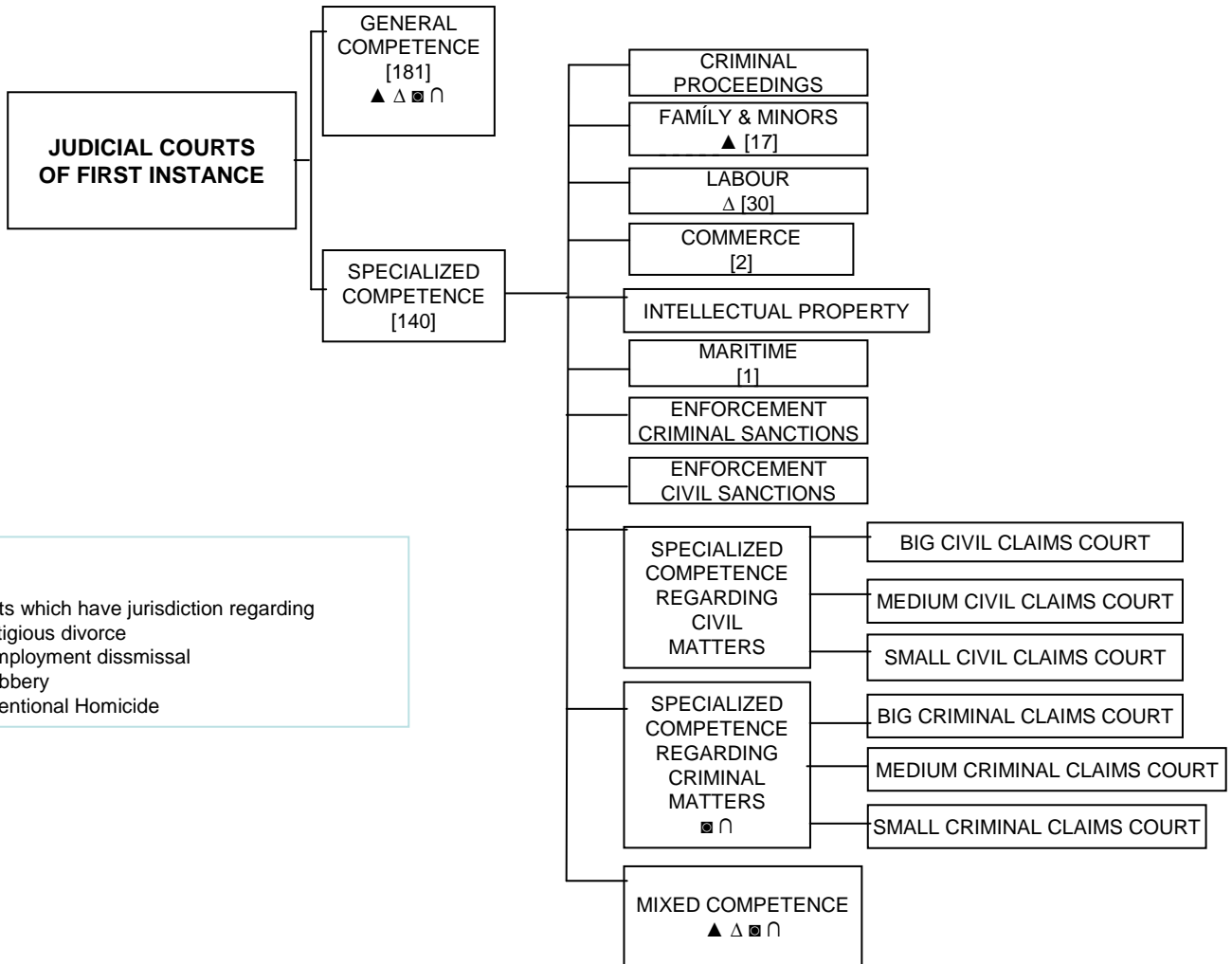
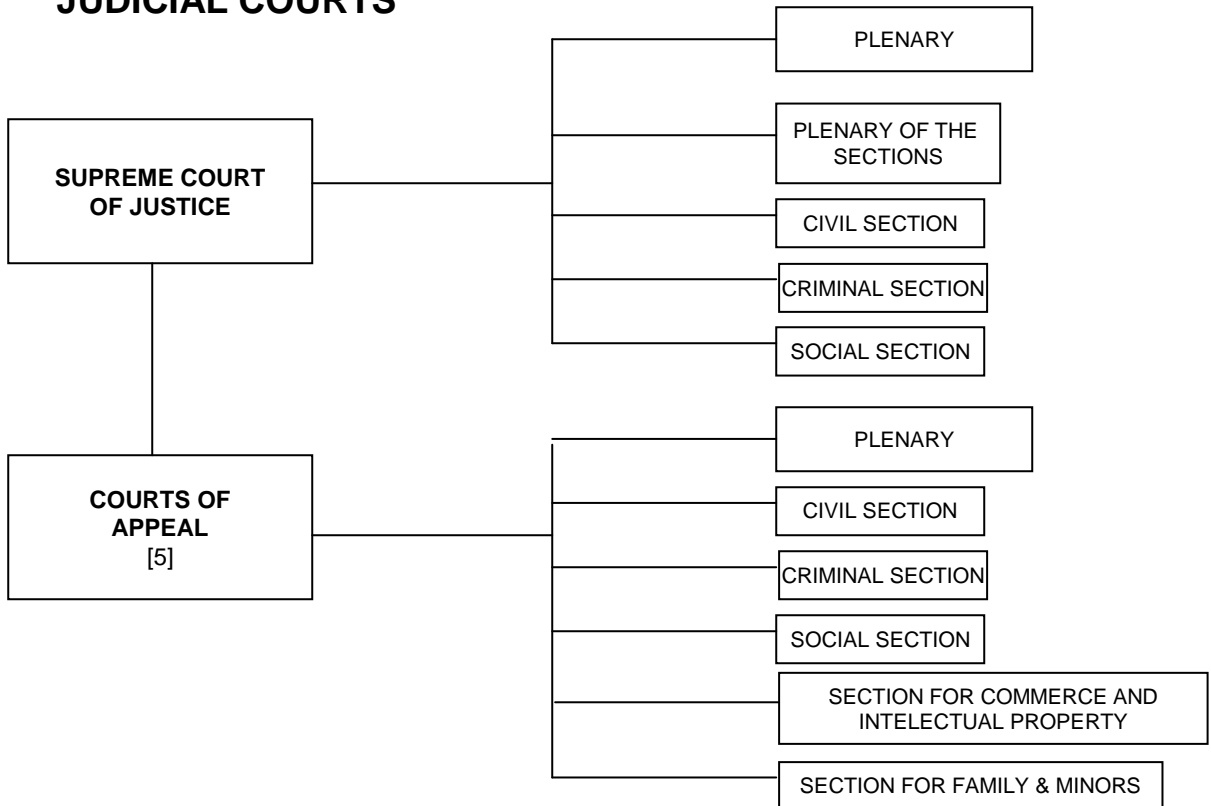


JUDICIAL COURTS

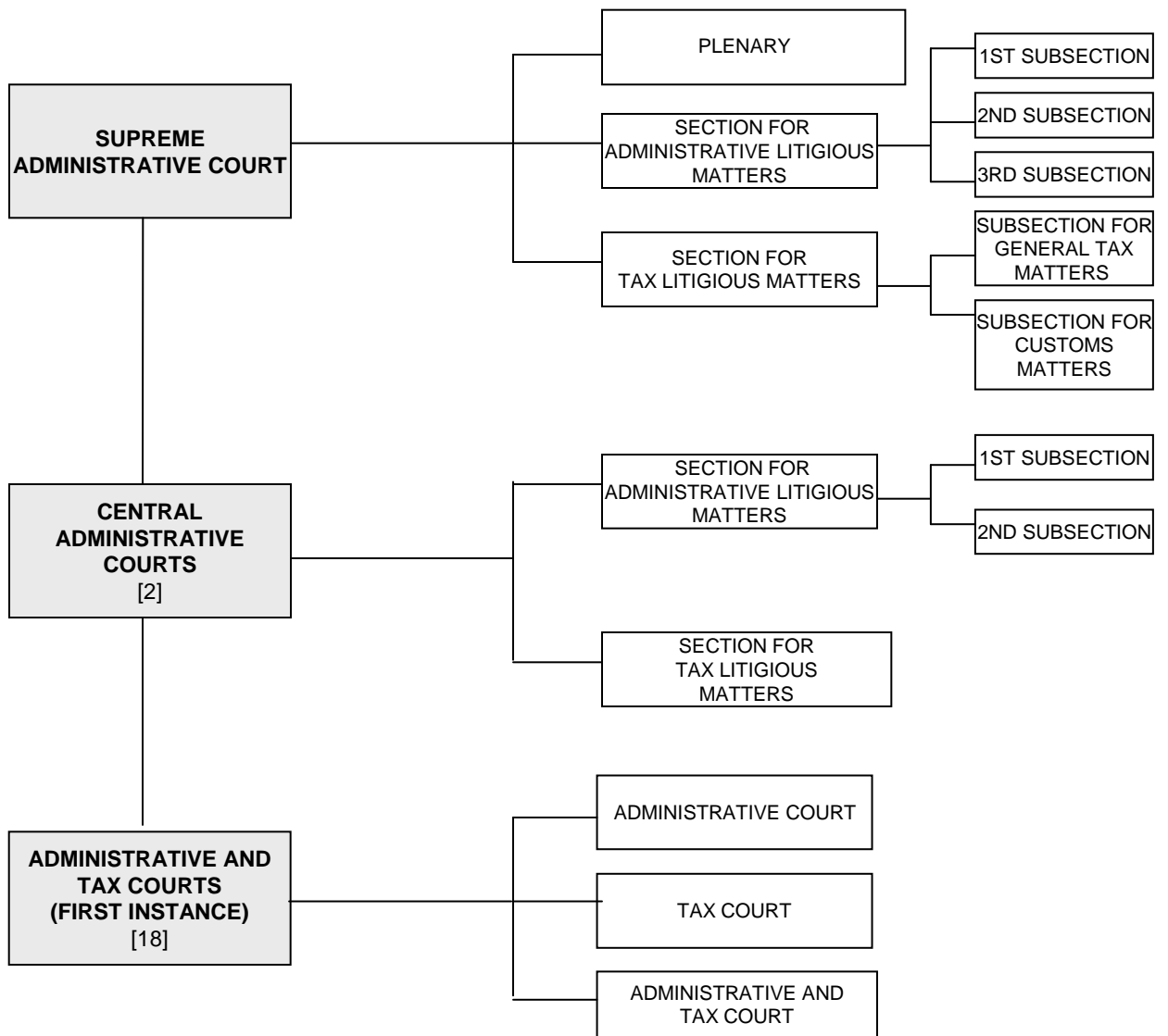


KEY

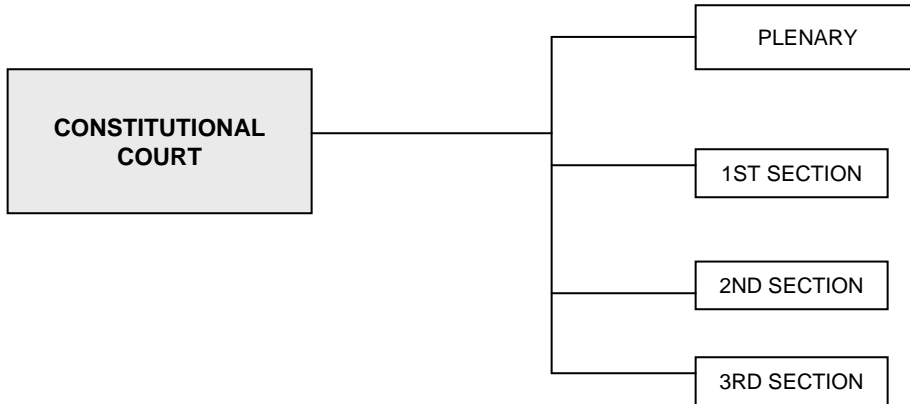
Courts which have jurisdiction regarding

- ▲ Litigious divorce
- △ Employment dismissal
- ▣ Robbery
- ∩ Intentional Homicide

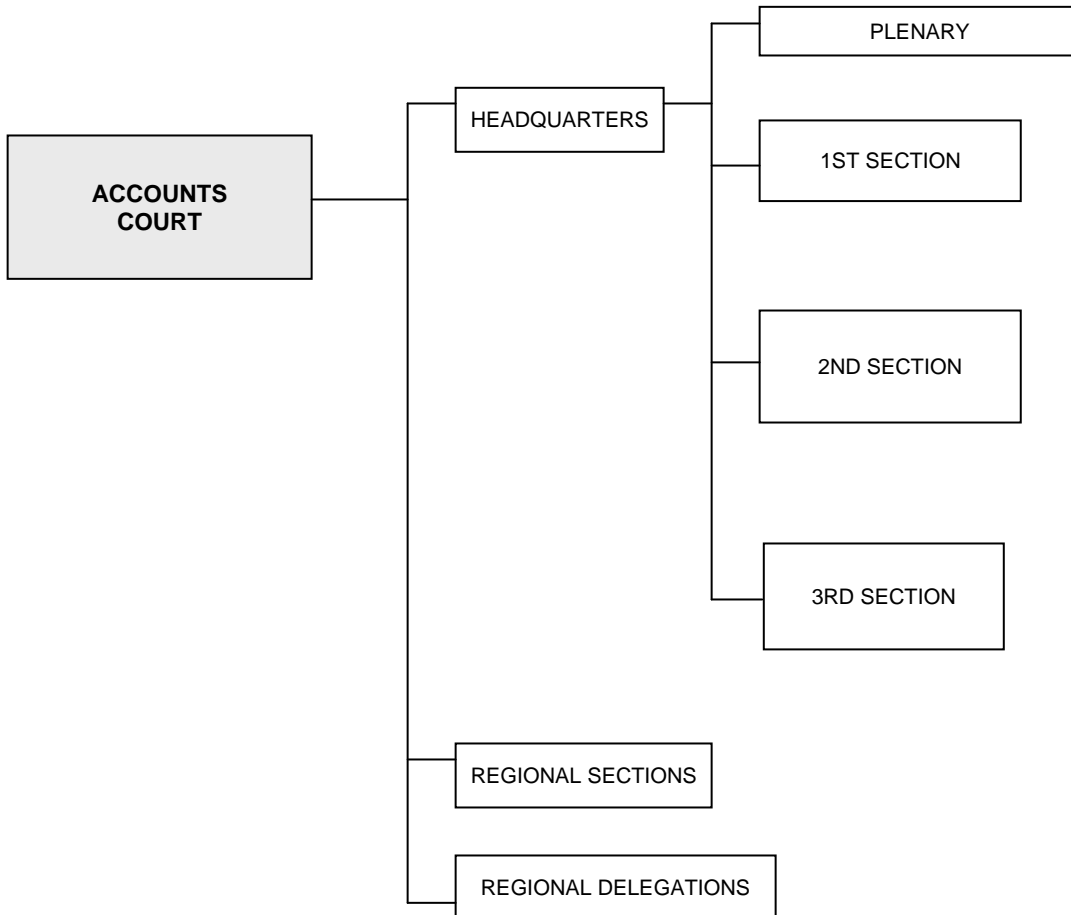
ADMINISTRATIVE AND TAX COURTS



CONSTITUTIONAL COURT



ACCOUNTS COURT



THE ROLE OF THE PUBLIC PROSECUTION OFFICE

According to article 219 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic, the Public Prosecutors' Office shall be responsible for representing the State and defending the interests determined by law and for participating in the implementation of the criminal policy defined by the bodies that exercise sovereign power, conducting penal action in accordance with the principle of legality, and defending the democratic rule of law. The Constitution also prescribes that the Public Prosecutors' Office shall possess its own statute and autonomy from other national, regional or local public bodies.

Article 3 of the Statute of the Public Prosecutor's Office lays down the competences of this public body:

- Representation of the State, autonomous regions, local authorities, legally incompetents, those whose identity is not clear and absents whose location is uncertain;
- Execution of the criminal policy as defined by the bodies that exercise sovereign power;
- Execution of the criminal action under the orientation of the principle of legality;
- Legal aid to the workers and their families in the defense of social rights;
- The defense of collective and diffuse interests, as defined by law;
- Defense of the independency of courts and assurance of the exercise of jurisdictional function in conformity with the Constitution and the laws;
- Promotion of the execution of court decisions, in the cases in which is legitimate to do so;
- Direct criminal investigation, even when this investigation is made by other entities;
- Promotion and execution of actions of criminal prevention;
- Control of the constitutionality of legal instruments;
- Intervention in the processes of bankruptcy and insolvency and in every process that involve public interest;
- Exercise of advisory functions, as defined by the Statute;
- Control of the procedural interventions of the organs of criminal police;
- Commencement of an appeal if a certain judgment follows a collusion between the parties to defraud the law or has been delivered with express violation of the law;
- Exercise all the other prerogatives defined by law .

IMPORTANT NOTE: This organizational chart was made according to the dispositions of Law 52/2008, which introduces several changes in the organization of courts and in the so-called judicial map. The mentioned law was applied on an experimental basis to the judicial districts of Alentejo Litoral, Baixo-Vouga and Grande Lisboa Noroeste until the 31st August 2010. From the 1st September 2010 on the law has been gradually applied to the whole Portuguese territory and this process must be completed by September 2014.

Given the fact that (1) the new Law changes the name of several specialized courts, (2) rearranges their competences and (3) the new terminology will coexist with the old terminology until 2014, it is not possible to determine with exactitude the number of several courts. Therefore, only the number of specialized courts whose name and competences remain unchanged is mentioned.