



Reference data 2020 (01/01/2020 - 31/12/2020)

Start/end date of the data collection campaign : 19/03/2021 - 01/10/2021

Objective :

The CEPEJ decided, at its 35th plenary meeting, to launch the ninth evaluation cycle 2020 – 2022, focused on 2020 data. The CEPEJ wishes to use the methodology developed in the previous cycles to get, with the support of its national correspondents' network, a general evaluation of the judicial systems in the 47 member states of the Council of Europe as well as three observer states (Israel, Morocco and Kazakhstan). This will enable policy makers and judicial practitioners to take account of such unique information when carrying out their activities.

The present questionnaire was adapted by the Working group on evaluation of judicial systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL) in view of the previous evaluation cycles and considering the comments submitted by CEPEJ members, observers, experts and national correspondents. The aim of this exercise is to increase awareness of judicial systems in the participating states, to compare the functioning of judicial systems in their various aspects, as well as to have a better knowledge of the trends of the judicial organisation in order to help improve the efficiency of justice. The evaluation questionnaire and the analysis of the results becomes a genuine tool in favour of public policies on justice, for the sake of the European citizens.

Instruction :

The ways to use the application and to answer the questions are guided by two main documents:

- User manual
- Explanatory note

While the explanatory note gives definitions and explanations on the CEPEJ evaluation questionnaire and the methodology needed for replying, the User manual is a tool to help you navigate through this application. You can download the Explanatory note as a whole on the CEPEJ website. The specific explanations are also accessible for each question within this application under the tab "Explanatory note". This will serve as immediate consultation tool when answering questions. In case you have any questions related to these documents or on the use of the application, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat.

1.General and financial information

1.1.Demographic and economic data

1.1.1Inhabitants and economic general information



001. Number of inhabitants (if possible on 1 January of the reference year +1)

[1 893 223]

Comments The data is on 01.01.2021.

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002. Total of annual public expenditure at state level and where appropriate, public expenditure at regional or federal entity level (in €)

	Amount
State or federal level	7 238 116 539 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Regional / federal entity level (total for all regions / federal entities)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Data are provided by the law "On budget 2020".



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003. Per capita GDP (in €) in current prices for the reference year

[15 431]

Comments

004. Average gross annual salary (in €) for the reference year

[13 716]

NA

Comments The data provided by the Central Statistical Bureau.

005. Exchange rate of national currency (non-Euro zone) in € on 1 January of the reference year +1

[]

Allow decimals : 5

NAP

Comments

A1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Q1, Q3, Q4 - Data on Central Statistical Bureau web page, www.csp.gov.lv
Q2 - Law on State Budget 2020

1.1.2 Budgetary data concerning judicial system



006. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts, in € (without the budget of the public prosecution services and without the budget of legal aid). If you cannot separate the budget allocated to the courts from the budget of public prosecution services and/or the one allocated to legal aid, please go to question 7. If you are able to answer this

question 6, please answer NA to question 7.

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
TOTAL - Annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7)	71 517 600 [] NA [] NAP	70 915 571 [] NA [] NAP
1. Annual public budget allocated to (gross) salaries	54 614 541 [] NA [] NAP	54 097 482 [] NA [] NAP
2. Annual public budget allocated to computerisation (2.1 + 2.2)	2 631 038 [] NA [] NAP	2 606 355 [] NA [] NAP
2.1 Investments in computerisation	997 886 [] NA [] NAP	991 750 [] NA [] NAP
2.2 Maintenance of the IT equipment of courts	1 633 152 [] NA [] NAP	1 614 605 [] NA [] NAP
3. Annual public budget allocated to justice expenses (expertise, interpretation, etc.)	1 733 919 [] NA [] NAP	1 732 539 [] NA [] NAP
4. Annual public budget allocated to court buildings (maintenance, operating costs)	11 610 201 [] NA [] NAP	11 597 542 [] NA [] NAP
5. Annual public budget allocated to investments in new (court) buildings	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
6. Annual public budget allocated to training	67 817 [] NA [] NAP	58 242 [] NA [] NAP
7. Other (please specify)	860 084 [] NA [] NAP	823 411 [] NA [] NAP

Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. If the annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget allocated to the functioning of all courts, please indicate the main reasons for the differences: As regards the point 6. - annual public budget allocated to training - according to the Explanatory note, there should not be indicated the budget allocated for training institutions, which is indicated in question nr.131-0. In previous cycles, we have indicated the amount for trainings with budget allocated to training institutions, but in year 2020, we have excluded this amount from this point. Comment for Supreme Court - expenses for communication services, administrative expenses - 107409 EUR (implemented 80141 EUR), equipment and hardware rent and lease -2150 EUR (implemented 1439 EUR), stocks, fuel, inventory, office supplies - 84243 EUR (execution 81728 EUR).

Comment for other costs - Comment for point 2. - The increase in the IT budget is related to the COVID pandemic, as additional video conferencing equipment and laptops were purchased in order to ensure work in remote format. Comment for point 3. - The budget for justice expenses were reduced during Covid pandemic, because there were reduction in such as positions, for example, as procedural expenses, postal expenses, witness expenses. Other expenses: comment for district (city) and regional courts - administrative expenses 107,870 €; benefit for relatives due to the death of an employee 9765 €; compensations based on the rulings of the Latvian courts, the Court of Justice of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights € 6,440; vehicle rental, maintenance, fuel 118 195 €; tax payments € 3096; inventory, furniture, archive systems, judges' robes and badges 414 737 €. The budget for other expenses was reduced during Covid pandemic, because most of the activities were introduced in remote format.

007. If you cannot answer question 6 because you cannot isolate the public budget allocated to

courts from the budget allocated to public prosecution services and/or the one allocated to legal aid, please fill in only the appropriate line in the table according to your system:

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts and the public prosecution services together	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts and legal aid together	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts, public prosecution services and legal aid together	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. If the annual public budget actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

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008. Are litigants in general required to pay a court fee to initiate a proceeding at a court of general jurisdiction:

	Litigants required to pay a court fee to initiate a proceeding at a court of general jurisdiction ?
for criminal cases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, at the beginning of the procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, at a later stage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
for other than criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, at the beginning of the procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, at a later stage <input type="checkbox"/> No

If there are exceptions to the obligation to pay these court fees, could you please provide comments on those exceptions? According to the Civil Procedure Law Section 43 the following persons shall be exempt from the payment of court expenses in the State income, for example: plaintiffs - in claims regarding the recovery of remuneration for work and other claims of employees arising from legal employment relations or related to such; plaintiffs - in claims arising from personal injuries that have resulted in mutilation or other damage to health, or the death of a person; plaintiffs - in claims regarding the recovery of child maintenance or parent support, as well as in claims regarding the determination of paternity, if the action is brought concurrently with the claim regarding the recovery of child maintenance; plaintiffs - in claims regarding compensation for financial losses and moral damages resulting from criminal offences; public prosecutors, the State or local government institutions to which the right to defend the rights and lawful interests of other persons in court has been granted by law; applicants - in cases regarding restricting the capacity to act of a person due to mental disorders or other health disorders, revision of the restriction of capacity to act, or restoration of capacity to act; administrators - in actions brought for the benefit of such person for whom insolvency proceedings of a legal person and insolvency proceedings of a natural person have been declared, if these persons are a participant or victim of the relevant legal transaction or wrongful act in relation to which an action has been brought; creditors - in enforcement cases regarding recoveries for payment into State revenues; tax (fee) administration - in applications of cases regarding insolvency proceedings of a legal person; applicants - for provisional protection against violence; applicants - for the approval of adoption, as well as a court or a judge, upon consideration of the material situation of a natural person, shall exempt him or her partly or fully from the payment of court expenses in the State income, as well as postpone the adjudged payment of court expenses in the State income, or divide the payment thereof into instalments.

The full list of exemptions can be seen in the following this link: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/50500-civil-procedure-law>

008-1. Please briefly present the methodology of calculation of these court fees:

- Court fees are calculated according to the Civil Procedure Law Article 34 and Administrative Procedure Law Article 124.

008-2. The amount of court fees requested to commence an action for 3000€ debt recovery:

[355]

NA

NAP

Comments For claims assessable as a monetary amount from EUR 2135 to EUR 7114 - EUR 320 plus 4 per cent of the amount claimed exceeding EUR 2134.

$320 \text{ €} + (3000 \text{ €} - 2134 \text{ €}) \times 4 \% = 320 \text{ €} + 34,64 \text{ €} = 354,64 \text{ €}.$

For an application for an undisputed enforcement or for an application for the compulsory enforcement of obligations according to the warning procedures - 2 per cent of the amount of the debt.

$2 \% \text{ from } 3000 \text{ €} = 60 \text{ €}.$

009. Annual income of court fees received by the State (in €):

[13 075 631]

NA

NAP

Comments

012. Annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid, in €.

	TOTAL	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
TOTAL - Annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid (12.1 + 12.2)	1 991 722 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
12.1 for cases brought to court (court fees and/or legal representation)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
12.2 for cases not brought to court (legal advice, ADR and other legal services)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments State budget for state ensured legal aid is a common state budget position managed by the Legal Aid Administration. Every year the administration prepares the total request for the state budget resources based on the relevant data and calculations. The request shall be based on: the state budget resources spent by the administration in the previous year, classified by category of case, and forecasts related to changes in legislation, number of cases in court and the social situation of the population (number of low-income and needy persons). This is summed up. Therefore, it is possible to provide information only on the allocated total amount of state budget and implemented budget according to the categories of cases.

012-1. Annual implemented public budget allocated to legal aid, in €.

TOTAL	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
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TOTAL - Annual implemented public budget allocated to legal aid (12-1.1 + 12-1.2)	1 671 322 [] NA [] NAP	1 560 132 [] NA [] NAP	111 190 [] NA [] NAP
12-1.1 for cases brought to court (court fees and/or legal representation)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
12-1.2 for cases not brought to court (legal advice, ADR and other legal services)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

If the public budget actually implemented regarding legal aid is different from the annual approved public budget allocated to legal aid, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

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012-2. Does legal aid include:

	Legal aid includes:
Coverage of court fees	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Exemption from court fees	(X) Yes () No [] NAP

Comments

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012-3. Do legal aid budgets indicated in Q12 and Q12-1 include:

	Amount calculated/estimated included
Coverage of court fees	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Exemption from court fees	() Yes (X) No [] NAP

Comments

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013. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the public prosecution services, in €.

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to the public prosecution services, in € (including 13.1)	35 924 143 [] NA [] NAP	34 357 696 [] NA [] NAP

13.1. Annual public budget allocated to training of public prosecution services	59 344 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	59 344 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
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Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided. Moreover, if the annual public budget allocated to the public prosecution services actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences: 1. The cost of reimbursement was EUR 23 492 less due to the absence of 2 new posts.

2. Expenditure on goods and services of less than EUR 1 254 277, of which EUR 1 191 298 was not exhausted (used) because the original planned repairs were not carried out in the General Prosecutor's Office building on Kalpaka Boulevard 6 in 2020.

3. Capital expenditure was not fully absorbed at EUR 288 678.

4. Taking into account that raising the qualification of prosecutors is one of the priorities of the Prosecutor's Office, additional training measures and, accordingly, increased budgetary resources are envisaged.

On 1 January 2019, the Law "Amendments to the Law on Remuneration of Officials and Employees of State and Local Government Authorities" entered into force, by which there was prescribed a significantly higher remuneration for prosecutors. Consequently, the budget allocated to the Prosecution Office in 2020 is higher than in 2018.

"Annual public budget allocated to training of public prosecution services": The Prosecution Office is financed from the State budget, then, taking into account the additional State budget funding allocated to the Prosecution Office for 2020, it was possible to increase the funding for the training of prosecutors.

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014. Authorities formally responsible for the budgets allocated to the courts (multiple options possible):

	Preparation of the total court budget	Adoption/approval of the total court budget	Management and allocation of the budget among the courts	Evaluation of the use of the budget at a national level courts
Ministry of Justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other ministry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Parliament	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Supreme Court	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
High Judicial Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Inspection body	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If “Other Ministry” and/or “Inspection body” and/or “Other”, please specify: Preparation of the total court budget – The President of court submit requests to the Court Administration for material and technical provision of activities of the court institution. Court Administration when preparing the budget proposal takes into account the court proposals.

Management and allocation of the budget among the courts - Supreme court manages the budget within the Supreme court, but not allocations the budget among the district (city) and regional courts. 1) Preparation of the total court budget: Ministry of Finances, Court Administration; 2) Adoption/approval of the total court budget: Cabinet of Ministers; 3) Management and allocation of the budget among the courts: Court Administration; 4) Evaluation of the use of the budget at a national level: State Audit Office.

Comment for High Judicial Council - According to the Law on Judicial Power, the Judicial Council provides an opinion about the budget application in respect of courts and Supreme Court.

Evaluation of the use of the budget at a national level - The Court Administration prepares a report on the implementation of the state budget and submits it to the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry of Justice submits the consolidated report of the justice sector to the Ministry of Finance. The Cabinet of Ministers submits to the Parliament an annual report on the execution of the state budget and on local government budgets together with the opinion of the State Audit Office. Also, the Minister of Finance informs the Saeima Budget and Finance (Tax) Commission during the annual state budget draft law or its amendment development process about the state budget planning, as well as at least once a quarter - about the state budget execution. The situation has not changed compared to previous evaluation cycles. However, the answers provided in 2020 reflect a more accurate picture of the situation.

014-0. What are the criteria used to allocate financial resources among courts? Furthermore, please select maximum three main criteria of allocation

	Criteria used	Main criteria
Previous years' budget costs	[]	[]
Special needs assessment	[]	[]
Number of judges/non judges' staff	[X]	[X]
Number of incoming cases	[X]	[X]
Number of pending cases	[]	[]
Number of resolved cases	[X]	[X]
Other	[X]	[X]

[] NAP

Comments - If “Other”, please specify When allocating expenses to district (city) courts and regional courts for the purchase of maintenance materials and goods for institutions, the area of court premises is taken into account.

State budget funding allocated to district (city) courts and regional courts is not distributed between courts, except for funding for monthly salaries of court staff (number of employees by position and planned monthly salary), allowances (number of incoming and outgoing cases), stationery, office paper, forms and envelopes (number of judges and employees, reviewed cases) and for the purchase of maintenance materials and goods of institutions (number of judges and employees, reviewed cases, area of court premises).

014-1. Who is entrusted with responsibilities related to the budget within a first instance court?

	Preparation of the budget	Arbitration and allocation of the budget	Day to day management of the budget	Evaluation and control of the use of the budget
Court President and/or judge(s)	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP

Head of court administration and/or non-judges	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Mixed body (judge(s) and non-judge(s))	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Other	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NAP

Comments - If "Other", please specify. If the responsibilities are different depending on the type/instance of courts, please answer the question for the first instance court of general jurisdiction and describe the differences in the comment box: Other - Court administration of Latvia

Court President submits his or her proposals to the Court Administration within the budget preparation process.

A2. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Court Administration, Legal Aid Administration, Prosecutor General Office

1.1.3 Budgetary data concerning the whole justice system

015-1. Annual (approved and implemented) public budget allocated to the whole justice system, in € (this global budget includes the judicial system budget - see 15-2 and other elements of the justice system - see 15-3)

	Approved budget (in €)	Implemented budget (in €)
Total annual public budget allocated to the whole justice system in €	301 833 651 [] NA [] NAP	292 704 077 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment to explain the figures provided above and specify if a large portion of the budget allocated to the whole justice system comes from an international organisation. Moreover, if the annual public budget allocated to the whole justice system actually implemented is different from the approved annual public budget, please indicate the main reasons for the differences:

015-2. Elements of the judicial system budget (Q6, Q7, Q12, Q13)

	Included
Courts	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Legal aid	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Public prosecution services	(X) Yes () No [] NAP

015-3. Other budgetary elements

	Included
Prison system	(X) Yes () No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Probation services	(X) Yes () No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
High Judicial Council	(X) Yes () No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
High Prosecutorial Council	(X) Yes () No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Constitutional court	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Judicial management body	(X) Yes () No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
State advocacy	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Enforcement services	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Notariat	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Forensic services	(X) Yes () No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Judicial protection of juveniles	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Functioning of the Ministry of Justice	(X) Yes () No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Refugees and asylum seekers services	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Immigration Service	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Some police services (e.g. : transfer, investigation, prisoners' security)	() Yes (X) No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
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If “Other”, please specify: Since 2019 in cases when the recovery must be carried out for the benefit of a victim - natural person in relation to a satisfied application for compensation of harm in a criminal case and it is not enough with the amount recovered from the debtor in order to cover expenses for enforcement of judgment, remuneration for work according to the tariff and expenses necessary for the performance of enforcement activities in the non-covered part are covered for the bailiff from the funds from the State budget in accordance with the procedures stipulated by the Cabinet (section 567, Paragraph 4.1 of the Civil Procedure Law, which entered into force on 1 January 2019 and applies to enforcement cases started after this date). There is no fixed annual budget for this purpose. When necessary (at the request of a sworn bailiff in each individual enforcement case), the Ministry of Justice requests funding accordingly. Related legislation: Civil Procedure Law - <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/50500-civil-procedure-law>, regulations of Minister Cabinet - <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/304648-kartiba-kada-no-valsts-budzeta-lidzekliem-sedz-sprieduma-izpildes-izdevumus-izpildu-lieta-par-cietusajam-nodarita-kaitejuma> (available only in Latvian).

The Ministry of Justice in collaboration with the Council of Certified Mediators, has implemented project “State co-financed family mediation”. In order to ensure the availability of mediation with the conditions of the project in 2020 and also in the following years and to make it easier for the Ministry of Justice to attract the necessary funding for its implementation, an amendment has been made to the Mediation Law (came into force on 1 January, 2020). The Mediation Law strengthens the permanent function of the Ministry of Justice to implement measures aimed at resolving disputes related to the rights and interests of the child through mediation within the framework of budget. The existing funding is 60 000 €. and within the framework of 2021 allows to provide mediation services in accordance with the project conditions in a total of 400 disputes.

A3. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: 15.1. - Ministry of Justice, General Prosecutor Office, Supreme Court
15.2., 15.3. - Ministry of Justice

1.2. Organisation and management of courts and public prosecution services

015-4. Please describe who has responsibilities for the management of individual courts, what management roles they have, what is their status and their position in the organisational hierarchy of the court concerned.

- On Judicial Power:

The work of a district (city) court institution shall be managed by the President concurrently with the fulfilment of the duties of a judge. The President of a district (city) court shall: 1) act with financial and other resources transferred to a court institution; 2) determine professional duties for court employees and Deputy President; 3) determine duties of judges in relation to efficient functioning of a court institution (for example, cooperation with foreign courts and other authorities, compilation of practice, provision of opinions, participation in development of draft laws and regulations, provision of references to the Judicial Qualification Committee); 4) be responsible for the allocation of cases and other duties among judges; 41) shall organise the work of the court; 42) shall promote uniform court practice in the court, organise discussions regarding application of current laws and regulations and analysing of the court practice; 43) shall ensure the openness of the work of the court; 44) shall supervise the work quality of court employees and the conformity with the standards of servicing visitors in the court; 45) shall promote the conformity with the professional ethics norms and uniform perception thereof in the court; 5) submit requests to the Court Administration for material and technical provision of activities of the court institution; 6) be responsible for legal and useful use of resources; 7) organise the annual appraisals of court employees; 8) according to a decision of the President of a regional court, appoint a judge for the fulfilment of the duties of an investigating judge for a time period of up to three years; 9) according to a decision of the President of a regional court,

appoint a judge who will decide on the approval for the acquisition of the data to be preserved from the electronic communications merchants in accordance with the Operational Activities Law. The President of a district (city) court may: 1) verify the conformity with the procedural time periods in cases that are under judicial proceedings of a judge, and also the conformity of the settlement of matters with the requirements of laws and regulations, including the provisions of court proceedings; 2) request a judge to provide an explanation for the work organisation of the judge and other issues within the competence stipulated in this Section; 3) issue orders to a judge which are related to work organisation of the judge for fulfilment of professional duties; 4) suggest to the Judicial Qualification Board the performance of extraordinary assessment of the professional activities of a judge of a district (city) court. The circumstances of the professional activities of the judge that have been established by the President and that are related to essential deficiencies in work organisation or insufficient professional knowledge of the judge which is an obstacle for qualitative course of judicial proceedings shall be indicated in the proposal. If a judge does not perform the necessary procedural activities without a justified reason in order to ensure the examination of a case within a reasonable time period, and also in cases when the time period planned by the judge does not ensure the examination of a case within a reasonable time period, the President of the court may: 1) assign the judge to determine a corresponding time period in which the relevant procedural activity must be performed, taking into account the circumstances of the case; 2) redistribute cases to judges according to the plan for the distribution of cases (Section 33). In a district (city) court with more than ten judges, the President may have one or several deputies. The Deputy President may concurrently be the Chairperson of a courthouse.

The work of a regional court institution shall be managed by a President concurrently with the fulfilment of the judge duties. In addition to the duties of the President of a district (city) court, the President of a regional court: 1) shall determine such district (city) courts in the territory of operation of the relevant regional court where an investigating judge must be appointed, and also the work schedule of investigating judges in the territory of operation of the regional court; 2) shall determine a district (city) court in the territory of operation of the relevant regional court where a judge who will decide on the approval for the acquisition of the data to be preserved from the electronic communications merchants in accordance with the Operational Activities Law must be appointed; 3) may suggest to the Judicial Qualification Board the performance of extraordinary assessment of the professional activities of a judge of a district (city) court or a judge of a regional court. The circumstances of the professional activities of the judge that have been established by the President and that are related to essential deficiencies in work organisation or insufficient professional knowledge of the judge which is an obstacle for qualitative course of judicial proceedings shall be indicated in the proposal.

The President of a regional court shall have Deputy Presidents who shall concurrently also fulfil the duties of a Chairperson of a court collegium. A Deputy President may also concurrently be the Chairperson of a courthouse of the regional court.

If a regional court has more than fifty judges, the President of the regional court may have a deputy who does not concurrently fulfil the duties of a Chairperson of a court collegium.

The Ministry of Justice is the leading State administration institution in the administration of courts. The Ministry of Justice shall: 1) issue internal regulations regarding organisational management issues of district (city) courts, regional courts; 2) request from district (city) courts, regional courts information which it needs for the performance of the functions laid down in laws and regulations; 3) handle organisational management of district (city) courts, regional courts; 4) perform inspections in district (city) courts, regional courts.

The Court Administration is an institution of direct administration subordinate to the Minister for Justice which organises and ensures the administrative work of district (city) courts, regional courts. The Court Administration shall: 1) deal with the personnel files of judges, courts; 2) ensure the work of the commission for the selection of candidates for the office of a judge; 3) prepare documents and take measures connected with the appointment of judges and their approval to the office, and also their suspension, dismissal, and removal from the office; 4) issue or prepare (if the replacement of a judge is to be determined in the case referred to in Section 74 of this Law) orders on vacations, business trips and training of judges; 5) prepare lists of offices of judges and approve the lists of offices of court employees; 6) approve court employees job descriptions; 7) upon co-ordination with the President, hire and dismiss court employees, issue orders on vacations, business trips and training of employees;

8) plan and ensure training of judges, court employees; 9) request from courts the necessary data and from the employees thereof - explanations; 10) ensure that a judge becomes acquainted with the files of a disciplinary case, and also send the files of a disciplinary case to the Judicial Disciplinary Committee; 11) impose disciplinary sanctions on court employees for the established employment discipline violations; 12) fulfil the duties of the manager and holder of the State unified computerised Land Registry and distribute the information entered in the State information system of court institutions; 13) compile statistical data from courts on their work,

analyse the compiled data and provide proposals for the changes needed in statistical reports; 13) act with budget resources of courts; 14) plan income and expenditure resources of courts, and also analyse economic indicators; 15) prepare draft budgetary request for the provision of work of courts; 16) ensure targeted and efficient use of State budget resources; 17) provide materials and technical resources to courts; 18) in cooperation with valsts akciju sabiedrība "Tiesu namu aentra" [State stock company the Courthouse Agency], provide courts with working premises and the information and communication technology infrastructure; 19) once a year, provide a report to the Judicial Council on its work; 20) issue internal regulations regarding organisation of the administrative and economic work of district (city) courts, regional courts, and also carry out inspections; 21) ensure safety in the district (city) courts and regional courts. The Cabinet shall determine the essential safety requirements.

The Minister for Justice shall: 1) require explanations from judges; 2) order the Court Administration to perform an audit of district (city) courts, regional courts, if necessary, by involving the judges the Supreme Court and judges of regional courts, after coordination with the President concerned; 3) initiate disciplinary cases against judges; 4) supervise the fulfilment of the duties of the Presidents of regional courts and district (city) courts and their deputies, and also Chairpersons of courthouses of regional courts and district (city) courts, including may request an explanation on issues which are related to the work management of a court, courthouse.

Max characters value : 10 000

015-5. Please describe who has responsibilities for the management of individual public prosecution offices, what management roles they have, what is their status and their position in the organisational hierarchy of the office concerned.

- The Prosecutor's Office is a unified, centralized system of three-level structural units headed by the Prosecutor General. The Prosecutor's Office consists of the Prosecutor General's Office, the District Prosecutor's Offices, the District (City) Prosecutor's Offices and the Specialized Prosecutor's Offices, as well as the Office of the Administrative Director, headed by the Administrative Director and established by the Prosecutor General. Pursuant to the Law on the Prosecutor's Office, the Prosecutor General manages and controls the activities of the Prosecutor's Office, determines its internal structure and staff in accordance with the allocated state budget funds, as well as directly manages the work of prosecutors of the Prosecutor General's Office. The departments and divisions of the General Prosecutor's Office are headed by the chief prosecutors of the departments and divisions. The chief prosecutors of the departments also control the specific direction of activity in all structural units of the prosecutor's office. The chief prosecutors of the court district prosecutor's office manage the work of the district prosecutors and control the activities of the district (city) prosecutor's office in the territory of the district. The work of district (city) prosecutors is managed by the chief prosecutors of district (city) prosecutor's offices. Chief prosecutors are appointed by the Prosecutor General for a term of five years, following the opinion of the Prosecutors' Attestation Commission. The specialized branch prosecutor's offices have the status of district and court district prosecutor's offices and are headed by chief prosecutors.

Max characters value : 10 000

2. Access to justice and all courts

2.1. Legal Aid

2.1.1 Scope of legal aid

016. Does legal aid apply to:

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Representation in court	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Legal advice, ADR and other legal services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

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016-1. Please briefly describe the organisation of the legal aid system in your country both before going to court and during court proceedings.

- In a Constitutional Court process, civil matters and certain administrative matters, the state ensured legal aid is available to a person*, who:

- 1) has obtained the status of a low-income or needy person;
- 2) suddenly finds itself in a situation and material condition which prevents from ensuring its rights (acts of God, force majeure or other reasons that cannot be affected by the person);
- 3) is fully dependent on the state or municipality.

The partial state ensured legal aid in lawyer's civil matters of certain type (in cases falling within the jurisdiction of the Economic court, in cases arising from obligation rights, if the amount of claim exceeds EUR 150 000, and in cases regarding the protection of a trade secret against illegal acquisition, use and disclosure) is available to persons:

- whose income level does not exceed the national minimum monthly wage;
- whose property condition is appropriate for receiving the legal aid.

A whistle-blower can receive the state ensured legal aid under cases laid down in the State Legal Aid Law without assessing his or her property (as of 1 May 2019).

The state ensured legal aid is available to a citizen of Latvia, a non-citizen of Latvia, a stateless person, a European Union citizen who is not a citizen of the Republic of Latvia, but resides legally in the Republic of Latvia, a third-country national (including a refugee and a person who has been granted the alternative status in the Republic of Latvia) who is not a citizen of a European Union Member State, if he or she legally resides in the Republic of Latvia and has received a permanent residence permit.

The Legal Aid Administration provides legal aid:

- 1) in civil matters (except where the case is connected with customs or tax matters, it relates to a claim on infringement of honour and dignity, it relates to a claim which is directly related to the person's business activities or the commercial activities or independent professional activities etc.);
- 2) in administrative matters:
 - 2.1) within appeal of orphans' court decision on the protection of child's rights and legal interests;
 - 2.2) in appeal procedures within asylum granting process;
 - 2.3) within appeal of a decision on contested departure order or decision on contested decision on deportation;
 - 2.4) in administrative matters in court, where the court (the judge) has decided on granting of the state ensured legal aid pursuant to the case complexity and financial situation of the natural person;
- 3) In the Constitutional Court proceedings to a person, based on whose constitutional complaint the Constitutional Court has made a decision on refusal to initiate the case by justifying this decision only with the absence of legal grounds or its obvious lack for the claim satisfaction.

In criminal proceedings – for provision defence and representation persons address the person directing the proceedings (investigator, public prosecutor or judge) in cases and under procedure laid down in the Criminal Procedure Law.

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1018. Can legal aid be granted for the fees that are related to the enforcement of judicial decisions (e.g. fees of an enforcement agent)?

Yes

No

NAP

If yes, please specify: Answer for Q18 is "No", but in the Republic of Latvia there is another mechanism how persons receive support at the enforcement of judicial decisions stage – a legal framework that provides for exemptions from the payment of enforcement of the judgment expenditures on the basis of law and in addition sworn bailiffs right to reduce the remuneration fees in another cases.

1019. Can legal aid be granted for other costs (different from those mentioned in questions 16 to 18, e.g. fees of technical advisors or experts, costs of other legal professionals (notaries), travel costs etc.)?

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Legal aid granted for other costs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify: We can indicate that additional persons are exempted, for example, from expertise, interpreters and travel expenses (in cross border disputes). If the legal aid is provided outside the place of practice of the provider of legal aid, his or her travelling (transport) expenses and hotel (accommodation) expenses also shall be covered from the State budget. In questions 16-18 it is indicated that the state provides representation in court and legal advice, but in Latvia it is provided and paid also for preparation of procedural documents in all types of cases and in criminal cases for representation in the pre-trial criminal proceedings.

2.1.2 Information on legal aid

1020. Please indicate the number of cases for which legal aid has been granted:

	Total	Cases brought to court	Cases not brought to court
TOTAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
In criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
In other than criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Please specify when appropriate: Legal Aid Administration is the competent authority of providing the State ensured legal aid in a Constitutional Court process, in civil matters and certain types of administrative cases. In 2020 the Legal Aid Administration received 1146 applications for request of State ensured legal aid in a Constitutional Court process, in civil matters and certain types of administrative cases, decisions on ensuring legal aid were adopted in 847 cases, legal aid was ensured in 54 asylum and return cases. It must be noted that one case can last for several years, depending on the duration of proceedings, consequently, in a given year the Legal Aid Administration shall provide the legal aid both in cases undertaken in the previous years and new cases. The advocate shall provide the State ensured legal aid in criminal proceedings upon a request from the person directing the criminal proceedings to the senior of the

sworn advocates or in urgent in conformity with the schedule of the advocates on duty compiled by the elder of the sworn advocates. In these cases, the Legal Aid Administration shall perform payments to an advocate regarding the legal assistance provided. According to the data available to the Legal Aid Administration legal aid was provided in approximately 7286 criminal proceedings. Legal Aid Administration alone cannot select data on legal aid in cases existing directly in proceedings.

020-1. Please indicate the timeframes of the procedure for granting legal aid, in relation to the duration from the initial legal aid request to the final approval of the legal aid request:

	Time in days
Maximum duration prescribed in law/regulation	21 [] NA [] NAP
Actual average duration	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please specify if the envisaged timeframe is set in a statutory law, or in other regulation. Furthermore, if different timeframes are envisaged for criminal and other than criminal cases please provide more information:

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021. In criminal cases, can individuals who do not have sufficient financial means be assisted by a free of charge (or financed by a public budget) lawyer?

	Assisted by a free of charge lawyer
Accused individuals	(X) Yes () No
Victims	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If yes, please specify: An agreement with an advocate regarding defence shall be entered into by the person him or herself or other persons in the interests thereof. If a person, who has the right to defence, has not entered into an agreement regarding defence, but the participation of a defence counsel is mandatory (according to the Criminal Procedure Law) or the person wants that the defence counsel participated, the person directing the proceedings shall notify the senior of the sworn advocates of the territory of the relevant court process regarding the necessity to ensure the participation of a defence counsel in criminal proceedings or in urgent cases person directing the proceedings shall invite an advocate in conformity with the schedule of the advocates on duty. If the rights of a minor and the protection of the interests thereof are encumbered or otherwise not ensured, or the representatives submit a substantiated request, a person directing the proceedings shall take a decision on the retaining of an advocate as the representative of a minor victim. In exceptional cases, the person directing the proceedings shall take a decision on the retaining of the representative – advocate of a victim – needy or low-income person of legal age, if it is otherwise not possible to ensure the protection of the rights and interests of the person in criminal proceedings. The provision of legal assistance to the minor victim and representative of a minor victim is mandatory in criminal proceedings regarding a criminal offence that is related to the violence caused by the person from which the minor victim is materially or otherwise dependent, or for a criminal offence against morals and sexual inviolability. In these cases, the advocate shall be invited in the above order. In all of these cases according to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 1493 of 22 December 2009 “Regulations Regarding the Amount of State-ensured Legal Aid, the Amount of Payment, Reimbursable Expenses and the Procedures for Payment Thereof” payments for legal aid providers are ensured from the funds of the State budget.

022. In criminal cases are these individuals free to choose their lawyer within the framework of the legal aid system?

	free selection of lawyer
Accused individuals	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Victims	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

023-0. Does your country have an income and assets evaluation for granting full or partial legal aid?

Yes

No

Comments - Please indicate if any other criteria are taken into account for the granting of legal aid and any comment that could explain the data provided above: For partial legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases - Annual income value - there is an indicated average monthly income, that is no more than 430 EUR, annual 5160 EUR.

Comment for partial legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases - Assets value:

There is a partly income and assets' system with some specific criteria (different to accused persons and victims, please see the answer No. 21). The person is provided with a lawyer, whose services are paid for from the state budget. According to the law on the reimbursement of these expenses in the state budget, it is necessary to make a relevant decision. The Criminal Procedure Law stipulates that the right to exemption from payment for the assistance of a defence counsel shall be determined by a person directing the proceedings by taking the final decision. If a person has been acquitted with a court judgment, procedural expenditures shall be covered from State resources. Procedural expenditures shall be covered from State funds, if the person from whom such expenditures are to be recovered is indigent. A court may release a convicted person from the recovery of procedural expenditures fully or partially in other cases as well, if the recovery may substantially affect the financial situation of a person who is a dependent of such convicted person. State resources shall cover the work of an interpreter, as well as procedural expenditures that are related to the participation of an advocate, on the basis of an assignment, in criminal proceedings, if a person directing the proceedings has released a person, in accordance with the procedures specified by law, from payment for legal assistance.

In a Constitutional Court process, civil matters and certain administrative matters, the state ensured legal aid (full) is available to a person, who:

- has obtained the status of a low-income or needy person (it is granted by the municipal social service; According to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No.299 "Regulations regarding the recognition of a family or person living separately as needy", adopted 30 March 2010 (regulation in English <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/207462-regulations-regarding-the-recognition-of-a-family-or-person-living-separately-as-needy>), a person is assigned a needy status. Each municipality is currently given the right to determine a different income level for a low-income person);
- suddenly finds itself in a situation and material condition which prevents from ensuring its rights (due to a natural disaster or force majeure or other circumstances beyond their control);
- is fully dependent on the state or municipality.

The partial state ensured legal aid in civil matters (in cases concerning the recognition of decisions of shareholder or stockholder meetings of capital companies as invalid, in cases arising from obligation rights, if the amount of claim exceeds EUR 150 000, and in cases regarding the protection of a trade secret against illegal acquisition, use and disclosure) is available to persons:

- whose income level does not exceed the national minimum monthly wage (in 2020 – 430 eur);
- whose property condition is appropriate for receiving the legal aid.

The Cabinet of Ministers determines the state of property and income level of the persons shall be regarded as appropriate for the receipt of legal aid and the procedures for the evaluation thereof (regulation in English <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/303872-regulations-regarding-the-eligibility-of-persons-for-the-state-ensured-legal-aid-considering-their-state-of-property-and-income-level-and-the-sample-form-of-the-request>).

023. If yes, please specify in the table:

	Annual income value (for one person), (in €)	Assets value (for one person), (in €)
Full legal aid to the applicant for criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Full legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Partial legal aid to the applicant for criminal cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Partial legal aid to the applicant for other than criminal cases	5 160 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

024. Is it possible to refuse legal aid for lack of merit of the case (for example for frivolous action or no chance of success)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please explain the exact criteria for denying legal aid:

025. Is the decision to grant or refuse legal aid taken by:

the judge(s) dealing with the main case

another judge or official

an authority external to the court

several authorities (court and external bodies)

Comments Almost in all kind of cases there is the Legal Aid administration responsibility to grant or refuse legal aid: in a Constitutional Court process, civil cases and the certain kind of administrative cases the Legal Aid Administration has a responsibility to grant or refuse legal aid, in asylum cases the Legal Aid administration receive requests to grant legal aid from The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs or The State Border Guard, in another complicated administrative cases administrative court according the Administrative procedure law decide to grant legal aid or to refuse legal aid. In criminal proceedings – for provision defence and representation persons address the person directing the proceedings (investigator, public prosecutor or judge) in cases and under procedure laid down in the Criminal Procedure Law and the person directing the proceedings invites an advocate for providing legal aid.

026. Is there a private system of legal expense insurance enabling individuals (this does not concern companies or other legal persons) to finance court proceedings?

Yes

No

Comments - If appropriate, please inform about the current development of such insurances in your country; is it a growing phenomenon?

027. Can judicial decisions direct how legal costs, paid by the parties during the procedure, will be shared:

Judicial decisions direct how legal costs will be shared
--

in criminal cases	(X) Yes () No
in other than criminal cases	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If no, please specify how legal costs are distributed:

B1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Legal Aid Administration
26., 27. - Ministry of Justice

2.2. Court users and victims

2.2.1 Rights of the users and victims

028. Are there official internet sites/portals (e.g. Ministry of Justice, Judicial Council etc.) where general public may have free-of-charge access to the following:

	Yes, internet adresse(es)	No
Legal texts (e.g. codes, laws, regulations, etc.)	(X) www.likumi.lv	()
Case-law of the higher court/s	(X) www.at.gov.lv	()
Information about the judicial system (organisation of courts, court proceedings, etc)	(X) www.tiesas.lv ; www.at.gov.lv	()
Other documents (e.g. forms, downloadable forms, online registration forms)	(X) https://manas.tiesas.lv/eTiesasMvc/nolemumi ; https://www.at.gov.lv/en/tiesu-prakse/judikaturas-nolemumu-arhivs https://www.tiesas.lv/e-pakalpojumi/e-veidlapas	()

Comment - Please specify what documents and information are included in "Other documents" -Selection of anonymized decisions;
-Archive of case-law decisions;
-forms of judicial documents.

029. Is there an obligation to provide information to the parties concerning the foreseeable timeframes of their proceedings?

(X) Yes, always

() No

() Yes, only in some specific situations

Comment - If "Yes, only in some specific situations", please specify:

030. Is there a public and free-of-charge information system for providing information and facilitating access to justice:

	Information system
General for citizens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online information <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Interactive chat <input type="checkbox"/> In-person (physical access on site) <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> No
Specific for victims of offences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Interactive chat <input type="checkbox"/> In-person (physical access on site) <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> No
Specific for minors (child-friendly systems)	<input type="checkbox"/> Online information <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Interactive chat <input type="checkbox"/> In-person (physical access on site) <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comment - Please provide more information on these systems. Furthermore, please specify how this assistance is provided. Every person can visit website following this link <https://tiesas.lv/> and obtain free-of-charge information about access to justice.

The telephone number 116006 "Helpdesk for Victims of Crime", which provides victims of crime with emotional and psychological support and information on the victims` procedural rights and access to relevant organizations and information. Victim support websites: <http://www.cietusajiem.lv/lv/> became available for the victims of crime, where is useful information for victims of crime, their family members and witnesses. In addition State Aid Administration according to the law "On state compensation on victims" performing its main function helps people who are recognized as victims of the crime according the above-mentioned law. Every person can visit Legal Aid Administration website following this link <http://www.jpa.gov.lv/viegli-lasit-eng> and obtain free of charge information concerning victims of the crime. Furthermore, there is state guaranteed legal aid and free helpline for victims of crime at +371 80001801 that provides informational and psychological support. Victims of the crime can visit Legal Aid Administration to get some necessary information and also come the counselling free of charge sessions.

Comment - on specific for minor (child-friendly systems) - child support mechanisms are discussed in question 31.

031. Are there special favourable arrangements to be applied, during judicial proceedings, to the following categories of vulnerable persons:

	Information mechanism	Special arrangements in hearings	Other specific arrangements
Victims of sexual violence/rape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Victims of terrorism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Minors (witnesses or victims)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Victims of domestic violence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Ethnic minorities	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Persons with disabilities	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Juvenile offenders	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Other (e.g. victims of human trafficking, forced marriage, sexual mutilation)	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If “Other vulnerable person” and/or “Other specific arrangements”, please specify: Specially Protected Victim

(1) The following victims shall be specially protected:

- 1) a minor;
- 2) a person who is not able to completely exercise his or her procedural rights due to a mental or other health deficiencies;
- 3) a person who has suffered from a criminal offence directed against the morality or sexual inviolability of a person, or from human trafficking;
- 4) a person who has suffered from a criminal offence related to violence or threat of violence and committed by a member of the immediate family, former spouse of the victim or by a person with whom the victim has been in a continuous intimate relationship;
- 5) a person who as a result of a criminal offence has been, possibly, inflicted serious bodily injuries or mental impairments;
- 6) a person who has suffered from a criminal offence, possibly, committed due to racial, national, ethnic, or religious reasons.

(2) By a decision of the person directing the proceedings also a victim who is not referred to in Paragraph one of this Section, but who, due to the harm inflicted as a result of a criminal offence, is particularly vulnerable and is not protected from repeated threat, intimidation, or revenge, shall be recognised as a specially protected victim.

(3) Information regarding the status of a specially protected victim shall be indicated in the decision to recognise a person as a victim. The decision taken shall be notified to the victim and his or her representative, if any. The court shall recognise a victim as specially protected in accordance with the procedures laid down in Section 96, Paragraph four of this Law.

(4) If the circumstances referred to in Paragraph one or two of this Section have become known after a decision has been taken to recognise a person as a victim, the person directing the proceedings may take a decision to determine the status of a specially protected victim as soon as he or she has become aware of such circumstances. The decision taken shall be notified to the victim and his or her representative, if any.

(5) A specially protected victim may participate in procedural activities, with a permission of the person directing the proceedings, together with the trusted person, unless it is a person against whom criminal proceedings have been initiated, a detained, a suspect, or an accused.

(6) A specially protected victim may request and receive information regarding release or escape of such arrested or convicted person from a place of imprisonment or a place of temporary detention who has inflicted harm to him or her, if there is a threat to the victim and there is not risk of harm to the arrested or convicted person. Such request may be notified until making of a final ruling in criminal proceedings.

According to Criminal Procedure law there also are Special Features of Interrogation of a Specially Protected Victim in Pre-trial Criminal Proceedings (Section 151.1).

031-0. If there are special arrangements for minors, what are the settings / tools / facilities / practises employed to protect them when they participate in judicial proceedings?

- Special and child-adequate preparation for participation in trials / lawsuits (explaining in a child-friendly manner the proceedings)
- Special room in court designated for child-friendly hearings
- Special person / team of trained professional(s) (such as psychologists) to accompany a minor throughout the proceedings
- Special ways to communicate and explain meaning of court decisions
- Interagency/multidisciplinary structure such as “Children's Houses”
- Other, please specify

NAP

Comment Minor is a specially protected victim in general.

The specially protected victim has the right to procedural action invite a trustee with the permission of the person conducting the proceedings, unless he or she is a person against whom criminal proceedings have been instituted, detained, suspected or accused.

The status of a specially protected victim will determine the wider rights circle - special interrogation procedure, the right to ask the court not to show the victim at the hearing heard in person, but by technical means, etc.

The specially protected victim shall also have the right to request and receive information on the release or escape of the arrested or convicted person from the place of imprisonment or temporary detention which has caused him or her harm, if there is a danger to the victim and no risk of harm to the arrested or convicted person.

It should be emphasized that the provision of legal aid to a minor victim and a representative of a minor victim is mandatory in criminal proceedings for a criminal offense committed by a person on whom the minor victim is materially or otherwise dependent, or for a criminal offense against morality or sexual integrity. If the minor victim or his or her representative has not entered into an agreement with a lawyer on the provision of legal aid at his or her own expense, he or she is provided with state-guaranteed legal aid.

031-1. What are the main criteria for a minor to initiate a proceeding, take procedural actions in his/her own name or to be a witness?

	Civil proceedings	Criminal proceedings
Capacity to initiate a proceeding and take other procedural actions in his/her own name	<input type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment] <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exceptions from the threshold <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment] <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exceptions from the threshold <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
To be a witness	<input type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment] <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exceptions from the threshold <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment]any age <input type="checkbox"/> Exceptions from the threshold <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comment - Please specify if you selected answers “Exceptions from the threshold” and “Other”. If your system distinguishes between full and limited capacity to take legal actions, please describe the basis for this differentiation (age, capacity for discernment, type of action, type of cases, other). Civil procedure law: According to Section 72 of Civil procedure law - court cases for natural persons from 15 to 18 years of age shall be conducted by their statutory representatives. In the cases specified in law minors are entitled to independently exercise their civil-procedural rights and to perform obligations. In such case the statutory representatives of such persons may, in the discretion of the court, be called upon to assist such persons in conducting the case. Examples: Section 195 of Civil law states: As the independent property of children, which is removed from parental administration if the children have reached the age of sixteen, shall be acknowledged: 1) everything that the children have acquired by their personal work or by independently working in an occupation, industry or commerce, etc. with the consent of the parents; 2) everything that is transferred by the parents, from the property owned by children, to their independent administration; 3) all the property given gratuitously to the children by kin or other persons on condition that the children administer and utilise such property independently, except for property which is granted for a specific purpose. Section 196 of Civil law states that where children have a dispute with their parents concerning their property, they may defend their rights by court process. Section 260 of Civil law states that the minor shall administer his or her independent property independently. He or she may conclude transactions in respect of this property within the limits of normal administration and he or she shall be liable for such to the extent of his or her independent property. If a minor, in accordance with the law enters into employment relations or is independently working in some trade, in a craft, in sales etc., he or she may conclude transactions which are necessary in connection with his or her independent work, and he or she shall be liable for such transactions to the extent of all his or her property. *According to Section 220 of

Civil law - in exceptional circumstances and for especially good causes, when the guardians and closest kin of a minor attest that the behaviour of the minor is irreproachable, and he or she is able to independently protect and defend his or her rights and perform his or her duties, the minor may be declared as being of age of majority even before he or she has reached the age of eighteen, but not earlier than before he or she fully reaches the age of sixteen. And in accordance with Section 221- The majority before the term (Section 220) shall be granted by the relevant Orphan's and Custody Court, and its decision is subject to being confirmed by a court. For natural persons who have not attained the age of 15 court cases shall be conducted by their statutory representatives. Minor as a witness: Section 172 of Civil procedure law states that the examination of a minor shall be conducted, at the discretion of the court, in the presence of a statutory representative or a teacher. Such persons may ask questions to a witness who is a minor. In cases where it is necessary to determine the circumstances of a case, any participant in the case or any person present in the courtroom may, according to a court decision, be sent out of the courtroom during the examining of a witness who is a minor. After the participant in the case returns to the courtroom, he or she shall be acquainted with the testimony of the witness who is a minor and shall be given an opportunity to ask questions to such witness. Witnesses who have not attained 15 years of age shall be sent out of the courtroom after their examination, except for the cases where the court finds it necessary for such a witness to be present in the courtroom.

Criminal Procedure law: (Exceptions from the threshold). Section 107. Rights of the Representative of a Victim (1) If a victim implements his or her interests with the intermediation of a representative, the representative has all the rights of the victim. (2) The representative of a minor victim who has reached the age of fifteen years may implement his or her rights together with the person to be represented. There are no other restrictions for other minors to initiate a proceeding. (Capacity for discernment). According to Criminal Procedure law Section 152 paragraph three a minor who has not reached 14 years of age shall not be notified regarding liability for refusal to testify and for knowingly giving false testimony.

031-2. If a minor cannot conduct proceedings in his/her own name, who can represent him/her in judicial proceedings?

	Civil proceedings	Criminal proceedings
Parent/legal guardian	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, except in some specific situations <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, except in some specific situations <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other representative (instead of parent/legal guardian)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social care services or other public institution <input type="checkbox"/> Legal professional <input type="checkbox"/> Associations for protection of minors <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social care services or other public institution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal professional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Associations for protection of minors <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comment Section 204 of Civil law states that where one of the parents is found to be an insolvent debtor, the property of the child shall be administered by the other parent or a special guardian appointed by an Orphan's and Custody Court for this purpose. Where both parents are found to be insolvent debtors, the Orphan's and Custody Court shall appoint a special guardian for the administration of the property of the child.

Section 267 states that where court proceedings arise between a guardian and a minor, and also in general where the interests of a guardian and a ward conflict, the Orphan's and Custody Court shall appoint a special guardian for the ward. However, if the ward has several guardians, then one of them, who is a disinterested person, may conduct legal proceedings against the others.

A person against whom criminal proceedings have been initiated, detained person, suspect or the accused may not be a representative. Criminal Procedure law

Section 89. Representative and Trusted Person of a Minor

[..]

(11) When deciding on the recognition of a person as the representative, the person directing the proceedings shall take into account the ability and willingness of this person to genuinely protect interests of the minor and shall evaluate his or her suitability for the achievement of the objective of criminal proceedings. A person against whom criminal proceedings have been initiated, detained person,

suspect or the accused may not be a representative.

(2) The following persons may be representatives:

1) one of the lawful representatives (mother, father, guardian);

2) one of the grandparents, or a brother or sister of legal age, if the minor has lived together with one of such persons and the relevant member of the immediate family takes care of the minor;

(21) If the person referred to in Paragraph two of this Section does not exist, cannot be reached or refuses to participate, or the person directing the proceedings has not recognised this person in accordance with Paragraph 1.1 of this Section, another person of legal age which shall be indicated by the minor may be recognised as the representative.

(22) If the person referred to in Paragraph two of this Section or another person indicated by the minor is not recognised as the representative, a representative of an authority protecting the rights of children or such non-governmental organisation which fulfils the function of protecting the rights of children shall be recognised as the representative.

In civil proceedings, a minor is represented by his or her legal representative - a parent, guardian, etc. The minor does not have legal capacity in civil proceedings, it is exercised by its legal representative. Accordingly, this legal representative may be represented by a legal professional except in certain cases, such as family disputes, where it is important that the persons themselves, not the representatives participate in proceedings.

031-3. What are the different criteria for the criminal liability of minors? (multiple replies possible)

Age threshold(s)

Capacity for discernment

Other criteria

Comment Age threshold(s) - 14

031-3-1. What is the age threshold for the criminal liability of minors?

Criminal liability resulting in sentence without privation of liberty (for example, educational measures)

[11]

NA

NAP

Criminal liability resulting in sentence of privation of liberty

[14]

NA

NAP

Comment - Please describe, briefly, the specifics of your system. Could you, please specify if the possibility of mitigation applies to the sanctions and how? If a minor is older than 14 years, according to Criminal law Section 65 the following forms of basic punishment shall apply: 1) deprivation of liberty; 2) probationary supervision; community service; 4) fine. The following additional penalties may be imposed on a minor without a basic sentence: 1) probationary supervision; 2) restriction of rights; 3) deportation from the Republic of Latvia. Also, according to Criminal law Section 66: A court may, taking into account the particular circumstances of committing a criminal offence and information received regarding the personality of the offender which mitigate his or her liability, release a minor from the punishment adjudged by applying compulsory measures of a correctional nature prescribed by law. According to Law On Application of Compulsory Measures of a Correctional Nature to Children Section 6 The following compulsory measures of a correctional nature may be applied to children: 1) the giving of a warning; 2) to impose a duty to apologise to the victims if they agree to meet with the guilty party; 3) to place a child in the custody of parents or guardians, as well as other persons, authorities or organisations; 4) to impose a duty to eliminate by his or her work the consequences of the harm caused; 5) for a child who has reached the age of 15 and who has income - to impose a duty to reimburse the harm caused; 6) to specify behaviour restrictions; 7) to impose a duty to perform community services; or 8) to place a child in an educational establishment for social correction. Compulsory measures of a correctional nature may be applied to children from 11 to 18 years of age, unless it is otherwise specified in this Law On Application of Compulsory Measures of a Correctional Nature to Children.

032. Does your country allocate compensation for victims of offences?

- Yes, but only if offender is unknown
- Yes, but only if compensation could not be obtained from offender
- Yes, always
- No

Comment

032-0. If yes, for what types of offences the compensation is allocated?

- For all types of offences
- For some types of offences
- NAP

Comment - Please specify: A person admitted a victim in criminal proceedings is entitled to the state compensation where an intentional criminal offence has resulted in:

- the death of a person;
- severe or moderate bodily injuries to the victim have been caused;
- morality or sexual inviolability of the person has been violated;
- the victim is a victim of trafficking in human beings;
- the victim has been infected with human immunodeficiency virus, Hepatitis B or C.

032-1. Is a court decision necessary in the framework of the compensation procedure?

- Yes
- No

Comments Compensation can be paid in both pending and completed criminal proceedings.

032-0. If yes, for what types of offences the compensation is allocated?

- For all types of offences
- For some types of offences
- NAP

Comment - Please specify: A person admitted a victim in criminal proceedings is entitled to the state compensation where an intentional criminal offence has resulted in:

- the death of a person;
- severe or moderate bodily injuries to the victim have been caused;
- morality or sexual inviolability of the person has been violated;
- the victim is a victim of trafficking in human beings;
- the victim has been infected with human immunodeficiency virus, Hepatitis B or C.

032-1. Is a court decision necessary in the framework of the compensation procedure?

- Yes
- No

Comments Compensation can be paid in both pending and completed criminal proceedings.

032-0. If yes, for what types of offences the compensation is allocated?

- For all types of offences
- For some types of offences

Comment - Please specify: A person admitted a victim in criminal proceedings is entitled to the state compensation where an intentional criminal offence has resulted in:

- the death of a person;
- severe or moderate bodily injuries to the victim have been caused;
- morality or sexual inviolability of the person has been violated;
- the victim is a victim of trafficking in human beings;
- the victim has been infected with human immunodeficiency virus, Hepatitis B or C.

032-1. Is a court decision necessary in the framework of the compensation procedure?

Yes

No

Comments Compensation can be paid in both pending and completed criminal proceedings.

034. Are there studies that evaluate the recovery rate of the damages awarded by courts to victims?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please illustrate with available data concerning the recovery rate, the title of the studies, the frequency of the studies and the coordinating body:

035. Do public prosecutors have a specific role with respect to victims (protection and assistance)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: A public prosecutor as a person directing the proceedings shall inform the person in good time of his or her right to be recognised as a victim in criminal proceeding. On the other hand, if a person is unable to express his or her desire to be a victim due to physical or psychological shortcomings, that person shall be recognised as a victim without his or her consent. A victim in criminal proceedings shall be informed of the progress of criminal proceedings of a criminal offence related to violence or directed against gender integrity or morality if that person makes such a request.

035-1. Do public prosecutors have a specific role with respect to minor victims (protection and assistance)?

Yes

No

Comment - If yes, please specify:

036. Do victims of offences have the right to dispute a public prosecutor's decision to discontinue a case? Please verify the consistency of your answers in this question and question 105 regarding the possibility for a public prosecutor "to discontinue a case without needing a decision by a judge".

Yes

No

Comment - If necessary, please specify:

037. Is there a system for compensating users in the following circumstances:

	Number of requests for compensation	Number of condemnations	Total amount (in €)
Total	45 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	103 420 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Excessive length of proceedings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Non-execution of court decisions	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Wrongful arrest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Wrongful conviction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comment - Where appropriate, please give details of the compensation procedure and the calculation method for the amount of the compensation (e.g. the amount per day for unjustified detentions or convictions): The Ministry of Justice informs that it does not have a separate statistic about circumstances mentioned in Article 037.

The Ministry of Justice informs that the total amount of compensation in 2020 consists of non-pecuniary damages 69 889,70 euros, damages 31 471,31 euros, state social insurance contributions 1867,12 euros and personal income tax compensation 820,09 euros.

The Ministry of Justice also informs that the compensation procedure and the calculation method for the compensation is regulated in a Law on compensation for damage caused in criminal proceedings and administrative violations. According to Article 15 the compensation calculation method of non-pecuniary damages for one unjustified detention day is minimum wage for month divided by 30, then the result without decimal places is multiply by 2. For example compensation for one unjustified detention day in 2020 was 28 euros ((430 euros : 30 = 14,33 euros); 14 euro x 2 x 1 day = 28 euros).

In Latvia, there is no compensation in the categories “Non-execution of court decisions” and “Number of condemnations”.

2.2.2 Confidence and satisfaction of citizens with their justice system

038. Does your country implement surveys to measure trust in justice and satisfaction with the services delivered by the judicial system?

	National level	Court level
Surveys for judges	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for court staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for public prosecutors	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc

Surveys for lawyers	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for other professionals	<input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for the parties	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for other court users (e.g. jurors, witnesses, experts, interpreters, representatives of governmental agencies, NGOs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for victims	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Surveys for the general public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc
Other not mentioned	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc

Comment - Please, indicate the references and links to the satisfaction surveys you mentioned above:

https://jpa.gov.lv/uploads/filedir/Klientu%20anketas%20apkopojums_2020_1.pdf

https://jpa.gov.lv/uploads/filedir/sniedzeju_anketas_apkopojums_2019.pdf

https://jpa.gov.lv/uploads/filedir/klientuanketasapkopojums_2020_vk.pdf Comment for Surveys for lawyers - state ensured legal aid providers, who were signed a state ensured legal aid agreements with the Legal Aid Administration.

Comment for surveys for the parties - recipients of the state ensured legal aid.

Comment for surveys for victims - victims, who have submitted a request for the state compensation to the Legal Aid Administration.

Other - Court administration annually makes internal surveys to the courts and Land Registry Offices in order to measure the satisfaction with the work of the Court Administration.

Starting from the 2015 in the national court portal www.tiesas.lv is published the surveys in order to improve the work of the judicial organization. Surveys is developed for court users and for sworn advocates, prosecutors and lawyers.

About (satisfaction) surveys aimed at judges and (satisfaction) surveys aimed at court staff - The Latvian Judicial Training Centre (LJTC) after the training of judges carries out surveys. They are not published.

Annually Court Administration makes a sociological survey of residents of Latvia "Attitude towards courts and interaction with the judicial process", where the assessment of judicial system is measured.

039. Are there statistical data concerning male and female court users, persons who initiate a case, victims, accused persons, etc.

(X) Yes, please specify: Gender of participants, previous convictions, education, nationality, citizenship, age

() No

Comment - If you have additional comments please specify:

040. Is there a national or local procedure for filing complaints about the functioning of the

judicial system? (for example, handling of the case by a judge or the duration of a proceeding)

Yes

No

Comments

041. If yes, please specify certain aspects of this procedure:

	Authority responsible for dealing with the complaint	Existence of a time limit to deal with the complaint for this authority
Court concerned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Higher court	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Ministry of Justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
High Judicial Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other external bodies (e.g. Ombudsman)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments Higher court - Existence of a time to deal with the complaint for this authority - time-limit of 30 days to deal with such complaints.

041-1. If yes, please specify certain aspects of this procedure:

	Number of complaints	Compensation amount granted
Court concerned	12 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Higher court	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Ministry of Justice	333 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
High Judicial Council	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other external bodies (e.g. Ombudsman)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If possible, please give information concerning the efficiency of this complaint procedure and any useful comment:

3.Organisation of the court system

3.1.Courts

3.1.1Number of courts



042. Number of courts - legal entities.

	Number of courts
Total number of all courts - legal entities (1 + 2)	17 [] NA [] NAP
1 Total number of courts of general jurisdiction - legal entities (1.1 + 1.2 + 1.3)	15 [] NA [] NAP
1.1 First instance courts of general jurisdiction - legal entities	9 [] NA [] NAP
1.2 Second instance courts of general jurisdiction - legal entities	5 [] NA [] NAP
1.3 Highest instance courts of general jurisdiction - legal entities	1 [] NA [] NAP
2 Total number of specialised courts - legal entities	2 [] NA [] NAP

Comments In the total number of specialised courts - legal entities are included 1 Administrative court and 1 Administrative Regional (appeal) court. Starting from 31.03.2021. in Latvia is created and operates the Economic Court. The Economic Court is not included in the total number of specialized courts. In Latvia is also Constitutional court - which within the jurisdiction specified in the Constitution of the Republic of Latvia and in this Law, shall adjudicate matters regarding the conformity of laws and other regulatory enactments with the Constitution, as well as other matters regarding which jurisdiction is conferred upon it by this Law. The Constitutional court is not included in the total number of the courts.

043. Number of specialised courts – legal entities.

	First instance	Higher instances
Total number of specialised courts - legal entities	1 [] NA [] NAP	1 [] NA [] NAP
Commercial courts (excluded insolvency courts)	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
Insolvency courts	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
Labour courts	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
Family courts	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
Rent and tenancies courts	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

Enforcement of criminal sanctions courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Fight against terrorism, organised crime and corruption	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Internet related disputes	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative courts	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Insurance and / or social welfare courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Military courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Juvenile courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other specialised courts	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If “Other specialised courts”, please specify: Military courts is established in state of emergency or during a war. On 1 July 2020, amendments to the Law on Judicial Power came into force, providing for the establishment of the Economic Court, which is competent for both certain types of civil and criminal cases. Accordingly, the Court is competent for specific commercial disputes and criminal cases, which cause significant damage to the business environment and economic development. The Economic Court is not counted yet in the total number of specialized courts, because it will start its action on 31st March 2021. As for Administrative court - first instance court is Administrative District Court and for higher instance is indicated Administrative Regional (appeal) instance Court.

044. Number of courts - geographic locations.

	Number of courts (geographic locations)
First instance courts geographic locations (this includes 1st instance courts of general jurisdiction and first instance specialised courts)	47 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
All the courts (geographic locations) (this includes 1st instance courts of general jurisdiction, first instance specialised courts, all second instance courts and courts of appeal and all Supreme Courts)	55 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

=

045. Number of first instance courts (geographic locations) competent for a case concerning:

	Number of courts
A small claim	34 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

An employment dismissal	34 [] NA [] NAP
A robbery	34 [] NA [] NAP
An insolvency case	34 [] NA [] NAP

Comments This is the actual count of geographic locations of first instance courts where the following cases can be heard.

045-1. Is your definition of a small claim the same as the one in the Explanatory note?

Yes

No

Comments - If not, please give your definition of a small claim: More can be read here: https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_small_claims-42-lv-maximizeMS_EJN-lv.do?member=1

045-2. Please indicate the value in € of a small claim:

[2 100]

Comments

C. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Court count as legal entities and geographical locations are from Court administration data.

Question 45: Small claims are governed by Chapter 30.3 of the Civil Procedure Act: Articles 250.18 to 250.27, and further by Chapter 54.1: Articles 449.1 to 449.12.

Link to the law: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/50500-civil-procedure-law>

3.2. Court staff

3.2.1 Judges and non-judge staff

046. Number of professional judges sitting in courts (if possible on 31 December of the reference year). (please give the information in full-time equivalent and for posts actually filled for all types of courts - general jurisdiction and specialised courts)

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of professional judges (1 + 2 + 3)	550 [] NA [] NAP	105 [] NA [] NAP	445 [] NA [] NAP
1. Number of first instance professional judges	380 [] NA [] NAP	63 [] NA [] NAP	317 [] NA [] NAP

2. Number of second instance (court of appeal) professional judges	135 [] NA [] NAP	31 [] NA [] NAP	104 [] NA [] NAP
3. Number of Supreme Court professional judges	35 [] NA [] NAP	11 [] NA [] NAP	24 [] NA [] NAP

Comment - Please provide any useful comment for interpreting the data above:

=

046-1-1. Does your system allow part-time work for judges with proportionally reduced remuneration?

Yes

No

Comments

046-1-2. If yes, please specify in which situation part-time work can be granted? (multiple replies possible):

Child-care

Elderly care

For the purposes of early retirement

Other reason, please specify:health condition

Without reason

Comments

046-1-3. If yes, what is the percentage of judges working part-time (in relation to the total number of judges)?

	Total (%)	Male (%)	Females (%)
Total (1 + 2 + 3) (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. At first instance level (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. At second instance (court of appeal) level (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. At Supreme Court level (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments

046-1-4. What is the percentage of work time of a judge working part-time compared to a full-time equivalent judge?

Less than 50%

() 50 – 60%

() 60 - 80%

() More than 80%

NA

NAP

Comments

=

046-2. Number of judges (FTE) by case type:

	Total	Civil and/or commercial	Criminal	Administrative	Other
Total number of judges	550 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	72 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
First instance	380 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	39 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Second instance	135 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	65 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	48 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	22 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Supreme court	35 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	15 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	9 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	11 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

If “Other”, please explain which types of cases: The courts of first instance of general jurisdiction do not explicitly distinguish between the specialisation of judges on the basis of the main types of cases, therefore there is not possible to distinguish the data between civil and or commercial cases and criminal cases.

=

047. Number of court presidents (professional judges).

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of court presidents (1 + 2 + 3)	17 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	5 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	12 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Number of first instance court presidents	10 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	7 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Number of second instance (court of appeal) court presidents	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	5 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Number of Supreme Court presidents	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments There are minor changes in data.

048. Number of professional judges sitting in courts on an occasional basis and who are paid as such (if possible, on 31 December of the reference year):

	Figure
Gross figure	[] NA [X] NAP
In full-time equivalent	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments - If necessary, please provide comments to explain the answer provided:

048-1. Do these professional judges sitting in courts on an occasional basis deal with a significant part of cases?

- () Yes If yes, please give specifications on the types of cases and an estimate in percentage.
- (X) No
- [] NAP

Comments

049. Number of non-professional judges who are not remunerated but who may receive a simple defrayal of costs (if possible, on 31 December of the reference year) (e.g. lay judges or “juges consulaires”, but not arbitrators or persons sitting on a jury):

	Figure
Gross figure	[] NA [X] NAP
In full time equivalent	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments

049-1. If such non-professional judges exist at first instance in your country, please specify for which types of cases:

	Yes	No	Echevinage / mixed bench
Criminal cases (severe)	()	()	()
Criminal cases (misdemeanour and/or minor)	()	()	()
Family law cases	()	()	()
Labour law cases	()	()	()
Social law cases	()	()	()
Commercial law cases	()	()	()

Insolvency cases	()	()	()
Other civil cases	()	()	()

NAP

Comments - If "Other civil cases", please specify:

050. Does your judicial system include trial by jury with the participation of citizens?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

050-1. If yes, for which type(s) of case(s)?

Criminal cases

Other than criminal cases

Comments

051. Number of citizens who were involved in such juries for the year of reference:

[]

NA

NAP

Comments



=

052. Number of non-judge staff who are working in courts (if possible on 31 December of the reference year) (this data should not include the staff working for public prosecutors; see question 60) (please give the information in full-time equivalent and for posts actually filled)

	Total	Males	Females
Total non-judge staff working in courts (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)	1 666 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	130 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 536 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies) with judicial or quasi-judicial tasks having autonomous competence and whose decisions could be subject to appeal	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Non-judge (judicial) staff whose task is to assist the judges such as registrars (case file preparation, assistance during the hearing, helping to draft the decisions)	1 040 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	88 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	952 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3. Staff in charge of different administrative tasks and of the management of the courts (human resources management, material and equipment management, including computer systems, financial and budgetary management, training management)	498 [] NA [] NAP	18 [] NA [] NAP	480 [] NA [] NAP
4. Technical staff	113 [] NA [] NAP	21 [] NA [] NAP	92 [] NA [] NAP
5. Other non-judge staff	15 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP	12 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "Other non-judge staff", please specify: The observed variations in the different categories are due to changes in court staff.

Other for Supreme Court - Division of case-law and research, Division of provision of regime of secrecy, Staff of the Secretariat of the Council for the Judiciary. Trainees are not included in the number provided of the non-judicial staff.

052-1. Number of non-judge staff by instance (if possible, on 31 December of the reference year) (this data should not include the staff working for public prosecutors; see question 60) (please give the information in full-time equivalent and for posts actually filled).

	Total	Males	Females
Total non-judge staff working in courts (1+2+3)	1 666 [] NA [] NAP	130 [] NA [] NAP	1 536 [] NA [] NAP
1. Total non-judge staff working in courts at first instance level	1 214 [] NA [] NAP	56 [] NA [] NAP	1 158 [] NA [] NAP
2. Total non-judge staff working in courts at second instance (court of appeal) level	336 [] NA [] NAP	52 [] NA [] NAP	284 [] NA [] NAP
3. Total non-judge staff working in courts at Supreme Court level	116 [] NA [] NAP	22 [] NA [] NAP	94 [] NA [] NAP

Comments

=

053. If there are Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies) with judicial or quasi-judicial tasks having autonomous competence and whose decisions could be subject to appeal in your judicial system, please specify in which fields they have a role:

- Legal aid
- Family cases
- Payment orders
- Registry cases (land and/or business registry cases)
- Enforcement of civil cases

- Enforcement of criminal cases
- Non-litigious cases
- Other cases not mentioned (please describe in comment)
- NAP

Comments - Please briefly describe their status and duties:

054. Have the courts outsourced certain services under their responsibilities to external providers?

- Yes
- No

Comments

054-1. If yes, please specify which services have been outsourced:

- IT services
- Training of staff
- Security
- Archives
- Cleaning
- Other types of services (please specify): Personal data protection officer

Comments

C1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Court Administration, Supreme Court

3.3. Public prosecution

3.3.1 Public prosecutors and staff

055. Number of public prosecutors (on 31 December of the reference year). (Please give the information in full-time equivalent and for posts actually filled, for all types of courts – general jurisdiction and specialised courts).

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of prosecutors (1 + 2 + 3)	461 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	181 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	280 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Number of prosecutors at first instance level	302 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	105 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	197 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Number of prosecutors at second instance (court of appeal) level	93 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	41 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	52 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3. Number of prosecutors at Supreme Court level	66 [] NA [] NAP	35 [] NA [] NAP	31 [] NA [] NAP
--	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment for interpreting the data above: The increase in the number of prosecutors in court district level prosecutor's offices is related to the imposition of an obligation on the prosecutor of the court district level prosecutor's office, and not on the chief prosecutor of the district (city) prosecutor's office to perform the duties of a higher prosecutor.

Regarding the decrease in the number of women working in the Prosecutor General's Office, it must be concluded that in total the number of women working has decreased by 8 persons. One of the reasons could be reaching the maximum age for performing the duties prescribed by law or the death of a person.



=

055-1-1. Does your system allow part-time work for prosecutors with proportionally reduced remuneration?

Yes

No

Comments According to the law, the public prosecutor may work part-time, however, so far there are no known cases in practice where the public prosecutor would have requested to work part-time. In case of part-time work, the remuneration must be paid according to the time actually worked.

055-1-2. If yes, please specify in which situation part-time work can be granted? (multiple replies possible):

- Child-care
- Elderly care
- For the purposes of early retirement
- Other reason, please specify:
- Without reason

Comments

055-1-3. If yes, what is the percentage of prosecutors working part-time (in relation to the total number of prosecutors)?

	Total (%)	Male (%)	Females (%)
Total (1 + 2 + 3) (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. At first instance level (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. At second instance (court of appeal) level (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. At Supreme Court level (%)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments

055-1-4. What is the percentage of work time of a prosecutor working part-time compared to a full-time equivalent prosecutor?

- Less than 50%
- 50 - 60%
- 60 - 80%
- More than 80%
- NA
- NAP

Comments

056. Number of heads of prosecution offices.

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of heads of prosecution offices (1 + 2 + 3)	52 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	24 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	28 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Number of heads of prosecution offices at first instance level	36 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	15 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	21 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Number of heads of prosecution offices at second instance (court of appeal) level	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Number of heads of prosecution offices at Supreme Court level	10 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Please provide any useful comment for interpreting the data above: The data provides information only about persons performing the duties of head of prosecution office.

057. Do other persons have similar duties to those of public prosecutors?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify their titles and functions:

057-1. Please specify their number (in full-time equivalent):

[]
 NA

059. If yes, is their number included in the number of public prosecutors that you have indicated under question 55?

- Yes
- No
- NAP

Comments

059-1. Do prosecution offices have prosecutors who are specially trained in areas of domestic

violence and sexual violence?

	-
Domestic violence	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, specifically for minor victims <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Sexual violence	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, specifically for minor victims <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify

=

060. Number of staff (non-public prosecutors) attached to the public prosecution services, if possible, on 31 December of the reference year and without the number of non-judge staff, see question 52 (in full-time equivalent and for posts actually filled).

	Total	Males	Females
Number of staff (non-public prosecutors) attached to the public prosecution service	397 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	111 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	286 <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

C2. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: General Prosecutor Office, Administrative Office

3.4. Gender equality

3.4.1 Specific provisions for facilitating gender equality

061-2. Are there specific provisions for facilitating gender equality within the framework of the procedures for recruiting :

	Yes, please specify	No
judges	()	(X)
prosecutors	()	(X)

non-judge staff	()	(X)
lawyers	()	(X)
notaries	()	(X)
enforcement agents	()	(X)

[] NA

Comments - if the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments. If you have additional comments please specify:

061-3. Are there specific provisions for facilitating gender equality within the framework of the procedures for promoting :

	Yes, please specify	No
judges	()	(X)
prosecutors	()	(X)
non-judge staff	()	(X)
lawyers	()	(X)
notaries	()	(X)
enforcement agents	()	(X)

Comments - If the situation changed since the reference year or you have additional comments, please specify:

=

061-3-1. Are there specific provisions for facilitating gender equality within the framework of the procedures for the appointment of:

	Yes / No
Court president	() Yes If “yes”, please specify:[Comment] (X) No
Head of prosecution services	() Yes If “yes”, please specify:[Comment] (X) No

Comments

3.4.2 At national level

061-5. Does your country have an overarching document (e.g. policy/strategy/action plan/program) on gender equality that applies specifically to the judiciary?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments - If the situation changed since the reference year, please indicate in the comments. Could you specify the reference or internet link of this/these document(s) or send/upload it/them to us?

061-6. At national level, is there any specific person (e.g. an equal opportunities commissioner) / institution dealing with gender issues in the justice system concerning:

	Yes, please specify	No
The recruitment of judges	()	(X)
The promotion of judges	()	(X)
The recruitment of prosecutors	()	(X)
The promotion of prosecutors	()	(X)
The recruitment of non-judge staff	()	(X)
The promotion of non-judge staff	()	(X)

Comments - if other than recruitment and/or promotion, please specify. If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments:

061-6-1. Please specify the text which set up this person/institution :

(title, date, nature of the text)

[X] NAP

061-6-2. Please specify the status of this person/institution:

(e.g. independent, attached to the Ministry of Justice, to the High Judicial Council or equivalent or to an inter-ministerial institution specifically dedicated to gender equality)

[X] NAP

061-6-3. Please specify if this person/institution has an information and consultative function or if its opinions/decisions have legal consequences:

(e.g. to block a decision or allow an appeal)

3.4.3 At court/public prosecution services level

061-7. At the court or public prosecution services level, is there a person (e.g. an equal opportunities commissioner)/institution specifically dedicated to ensure the respect of gender equality in the organisation of judicial work:

	Yes	No
in courts (judges)	()	(X)
in public prosecution services (prosecutors)	()	(X)
for courts' non-judge staff	()	(X)

Comments - Please specify the details of this person/institution, in particular its titles and function:

061-8. Does the feminisation of certain functions, if it exists in your country, within courts or public prosecution services, lead to concrete changes in the organisation of the work in the following areas:

	Yes	No
Assignment to different positions	()	(X)
Workload distribution	()	(X)
Working hours	()	(X)
Modalities of teleworking and presence in the workspace	()	(X)
Replacement of absent persons	()	(X)
Organisation of the hearings	()	(X)
Other	()	(X)

Comments - If other, please specify. Could you also indicate concrete examples referring to the various possibilities mentioned? If the situation changed since the reference year, please specify in the comments.

061-9. In order to improve gender balance in access to different judicial professions and equality in promotion and in access to functions of responsibility, what are the measures, in your country, which:

have been already implemented (please specify) :

are planned (please specify) :

Comments - If the situation changed since reference year, please specify in the comments.

NAP

061-10. Are there evaluation studies or official reports regarding the main causes of possible inequalities with regard to:

- Recruitment procedures, please specify:
- Appointment to the position of court president, please specify:
- Appointment to the position of head of prosecution services, please specify:
- Promotion procedures and access to the functions of responsibility, please specify:
- Other studies, please specify:

NAP

Comments - Please specify also the reference documents.

3.5 Use of information technologies in courts

3.5.1 General policies in Information Technology in judicial systems

062-1. Basic principles and models used in Information technology policies and strategies definition

	Organisation
IT policies and strategies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Defined and coordinated at national level by one institution <input type="checkbox"/> Defined and coordinated at national level by several institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Defined and coordinated at unit/stakeholder level <input type="checkbox"/> Other
IT Governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governed at national level by one institution <input type="checkbox"/> Governed at national level by several institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Organised at unit/stakeholder level <input type="checkbox"/> Other

Comments

065-1. In case there is a national structure in charge of the strategic policy making and governance

of the judicial system modernisation (including also IT) what is the composition of this structure?

- administrative, technical and scientific staff only
- mixed teams of judicial staff (judges/prosecutors/etc.) and administrative/technical/scientific staff
- other (please specify in a comment)

Comments - (please specify if there are other modernisation approaches that have been implemented):

065-2. Which is the organisational model primarily chosen for conducting structural IT projects in courts and the management of applications (maintenance, evolution)?

	Implementing new projects	Management of applications
Mainly by an IT department with the help of professionals in the field (judges, prosecutors, non-judge judicial staff, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Mainly by professionals in the field (judges, prosecutors, non-judge judicial staff, etc.) with the help of an internal IT department and/or an external service provider	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other alternatives (external service provider only – specify in a comment)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments - please also describe in case of “other alternatives”

065-4. Have you measured the impact resulting from the implementation of one or several components of your new information system?

- Yes
- No

065-4-1. If yes, have you measured the impact on (multiple answers possible):

- Business processes
- Workload
- Human resources
- Costs
- Other, please specify

Comments (please specify examples of the impact) The cost impact is also calculated; in cases where information systems have been implemented following a change in the law, there is always an assessment with budgetary implications.

3.5.2 Security of courts information system and personal data protection

065-5. Are there independent audits or other mechanisms to contribute to the global security policy regarding the information system of the judiciary ?

- Yes
- No

Comments (please specify in particular if national frameworks of information security exist):

065-6. Is the protection of personal data managed by courts ensured at legislative level?

Yes

No

Comment - If yes, please specify among others: if there are authorities specifically responsible for protection of personal data; the extent of the rights granted to citizens in the specific framework of software used by courts; if there are controls or limitations by law regarding the sharing of databases managed by courts with other administrations (police, etc.)

3.5.3 Centralised databases for decision support

062-4. Is there a centralised national database of court decisions (case-law, etc.)?

Yes

Non

Comments <https://manas.tiesas.lv/eTiesasMvc/nolemumi> and <http://at.gov.lv/lv/judikatura/judikaturas-nolemumu-arhivs>

062-4-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	For 1st instance decisions	For 2nd instance decisions	For 3rd instance decisions	Link with ECHR case law	Data anonymised	Case-law database available free online	Case-law database available in open data
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes all judgements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes some judgements <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments - if it exists in other matters please specify All the data that could allow for the person to be identified are anonymised including names, surnames, licence plates, addresses, bank account numbers, other document ID's

etc. <https://manas.tiesas.lv/eTiesasMvc/nolemumi> and <http://at.gov.lv/lv/judikatura/judikaturas-nolemumu-arhivs>

062-6. Is there a computerised national record centralising all criminal convictions?

Yes

No

Comments Reports are automatically generated and available at the website <https://dati.ta.gov.lv/>

062-6-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

- Linkage with other European records of the same nature
- Content directly available through computerised means for judges and/or prosecutors
- Content directly available for purposes other than criminal (civil and administrative matters)

Comments - Please specify who is the authority delivering the access Court administration of Latvia is responsible for providing access to these data.

3.5.4 Writing assistance tools

**062-7. Are there writing assistance tools for which the content is coordinated at national level?
(models or templates, paragraphs already pre-written, etc.)**

- Yes
- No

Comment – if it exists in other matters please specify

062-7-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Availability rate
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% (all templates are available for all courts of this matter) <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% (most of the templates are available for all courts or all templates for most of the courts) <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% (some of the templates are available for most of the courts or most of the templates for some of the courts) <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% (just starting to become available or in testing phase) <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) (does not exist at all for this matter) <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% (all templates are available for all courts of this matter) <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% (most of the templates are available for all courts or all templates for most of the courts) <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% (some of the templates are available for most of the courts or most of the templates for some of the courts) <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% (just starting to become available or in testing phase) <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) (does not exist at all for this matter) <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% (all templates are available for all courts of this matter) <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% (most of the templates are available for all courts or all templates for most of the courts) <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% (some of the templates are available for most of the courts or most of the templates for some of the courts) <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% (just starting to become available or in testing phase) <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) (does not exist at all for this matter) <input type="checkbox"/> NA
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062-8. Are there voice recording tools?

Yes

No

Comments

062-8-1. If yes, please specify:

	Availability of simple dictation tools	Availability of multiple speakers recording tools	Voice recognition feature
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pilot testing <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pilot testing <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in all courts <input type="checkbox"/> in most of the courts <input type="checkbox"/> in some courts / some pilot phases <input type="checkbox"/> not available for this matter <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pilot testing <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA

062-9. Is there an intranet site within the judicial system for distribution of news/novelities?

Availability rate:

- 100% - accessible to everyone in judiciary
- 50-99% - accessible for most judges/prosecutors in all instances
- 10-49% - in some courts only
- 1-9% - in one court only
- 0% (NAP) - No access

NA

Comments

3.5.5 Technologies used for administration of the courts and case management

063-1. Is there a case management system (CMS) ? (Software used for registering judicial proceedings and their management)

- Yes
- No

Comments - if it exists in other matters please specify

063-1-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	CMS deployment rate	Status of case online	Centralised or interoperable database	Early warning signals (for active case management)	Status of integration/connection of a CMS with a statistical tool
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible to parties <input type="checkbox"/> Publication of decision online <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Not accessible at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fully integrated including BI <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated <input type="checkbox"/> Not integrated but connected <input type="checkbox"/> Not connected at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible to parties <input type="checkbox"/> Publication of decision online <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Not accessible at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fully integrated including BI <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated <input type="checkbox"/> Not integrated but connected <input type="checkbox"/> Not connected at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible to parties <input type="checkbox"/> Publication of decision online <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Not accessible at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fully integrated including BI <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated <input type="checkbox"/> Not integrated but connected <input type="checkbox"/> Not connected at all <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
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Comment - If it exists in other matters please specify:

063-2. Computerised registries managed by courts

	Deployment rate	Data consolidated at national level	Service available online	Statistical module integrated or connected
Land registry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Business registry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comment – if it exists in other matters please specify:

Budgetary and financial monitoring

063-6. Budgetary and financial management systems of courts

	Tool deployment rate	Data consolidated at national level	System communicating with other ministries (financial among others)
Budgetary and financial management of courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Justice expenses management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Other (please specify in comments)	<input type="checkbox"/> 100%	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/> 50-99%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-49%	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-9%	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> NA		

Comments

Other tools of courts management

063-7. Measurement tools to assess the workload of judges, prosecutors and/or non-judge/non-prosecutor staff (tool quantifying the activity of judges, prosecutors and/or non-judge/non-prosecutor staff – for example the number of cases resolved)

Yes

No

Comments

063-7-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Tools deployment rate	Data used for monitoring at national level	Data used for monitoring at court local level	Tool integrated in the CMS
For judges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For prosecutors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For non-judge/non-prosecutor staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3.5.6 Technologies used for communication between courts, professionals and/or court users

064-2. Is there a possibility to submit a case to courts by electronic means?(possibility to introduce a case by electronic means, for example an e-mail or a form on a website)

Yes

No

064-2-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Availability rate	Simultaneous submission of cases in paper form remains mandatory	Specific legislative framework authorising the submission of a case	An integrated/connect ed tool with the CMS
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - if it exist in other matters please specify

064-3. Is it possible to request legal aid by electronic means?

Yes

No

Comments Information available in CMS - The Legal Aid Administration has established an electronic co-operation portal between the institution and legal aid providers.

064-3-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Requesting legal aid electronically
Availability rate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Formalisation of the request in paper form remains mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Specific legislative framework regarding requests for legal aid by electronic means	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Granting legal aid is also electronic	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Information available in CMS	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP

064-4. Is it possible to transmit summons to a judicial meeting or a hearing by electronic means? (a judicial meeting relates to stages prior to a court hearing, with a view to mediation or conciliation)

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

064-4-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

	Summons produced by CMS	Simultaneous summon in paper form remains mandatory	Consent of the user to be notified by electronic means	Modalities (if other please specify in comments)	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	[X]	[]	[X]	[] SMS [X] E-mail [X] Specific computer application [] Other	[]
Criminal	[X]	[]	[X]	[] SMS [X] E-mail [X] Specific computer application [] Other	[]
Administrative	[X]	[]	[X]	[] SMS [X] E-mail [X] Specific computer application [] Other	[]

Comments

Use of information technologies for improving the quality of the communication between courts and professionals



064-6. Are there possibilities of electronic communication between courts and lawyers and/or parties? (sending of electronic files and data concerning a judicial proceeding with or without scanned documents, mainly to develop dematerialised communication)

	Tool deployment rate	Trial phases concerned	Modalities (if there are different according to the trial phases or if other, please specify in a comment)	Specific legal framework	Availability for
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submission of a case to a court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phases preparatory to a hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule of hearings and/or deferrals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmission of court decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lawyers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parties not represented by lawyer
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submission of a case to a court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phases preparatory to a hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule of hearings and/or deferrals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmission of court decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lawyers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parties not represented by lawyer
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submission of a case to a court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phases preparatory to a hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule of hearings and/or deferrals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmission of court decisions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lawyers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parties not represented by lawyer

064-7. Terms and conditions of electronic communication used by professionals other than lawyers (sending of electronic data concerning a judicial proceeding with or without scanned documents, mainly to develop dematerialised communication)

	Tool deployment rate	Modalities (if there are different according to the deeds or if other, please specify in a comment)	Specific legal framework
Enforcement agents (as defined in Q169 and following)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Notaries (as defined in Q192 and following)	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Experts (as defined in Q202 and following)	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Judicial police services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific computer application <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Comments "Experts": the tool deployment rate for court experts is about 50%, because the communication is not more than 50% by electronic means, since the decisions on the identification of the expert-examination are mainly in paper form, as they come with the expert-examination sites. Enforcement agents (specific legal framework): According Civil Procedure Law, the enforcement agent electronically submits the application for the corroboration of the immovable property in the name of the acquirer to the district (city) court through the Judicial Informative System. Likewise, the enforcement agent submits to the district (city) court a request for corroboration regarding making of a recovery notation.

Notaires (specific legal framework): Section E1 of the Notariate Law and other norms govern communication electronically. There is also a special regulation in the Land Register Law, which provides that a sworn notary shall submit documents to the Land Register electronically.

064-9. Are there online processing systems of specialised litigation (small claim litigation, undisputed claims, preparatory phases to the resolution of family conflicts, etc. – please, specify in "comments" section)?

Yes

No

Use of information technologies between courts, professionals and users in the framework of judicial proceedings

064-10. Videoconferencing between courts, professionals and/or users (this concerns the use of audio-visual devices in the framework of judicial proceedings such as the hearing of parties, etc.)

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

064-10-1. If yes, please specify the following information and describe in comments of this section the cases of actual use of videoconferencing and the expected benefits (for example, the use of this device to reduce the number of detainees’ transfers to the court):

	Deployment rate (chose one only)	Proceeding phase	Specific legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior to the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After the hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior to the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After the hearing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior to the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During the hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After the hearing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

064-11. Recording of hearings or debates (sound or audio-visual recording during the investigation and/or trial phase(s))

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

064-11-1. If yes, please specify the following information:

Tool deployment rate	Type of recording	Specific legislative framework

Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sound <input type="checkbox"/> Video <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sound <input type="checkbox"/> Video <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99% <input type="checkbox"/> 10-49% <input type="checkbox"/> 1-9% <input type="checkbox"/> 0% (NAP) <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sound <input type="checkbox"/> Video <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

064-12. Is electronic evidence admissible?

	Admissibility of electronic evidence	Legislative framework
Civil and/or commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General law only <input type="checkbox"/> General and specialised law <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised law only <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General law only <input type="checkbox"/> General and specialised law <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised law only <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General law only <input type="checkbox"/> General and specialised law <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised law only <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Other devices of electronic communication between courts, professionals and/or users

3.6. Performance and evaluation

3.6.1 National policies applied in courts and public prosecution services

066. Are quality standards determined for the judicial system at national level (are there quality systems for the judiciary and/or judicial quality policies)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Partly yes, according to the Law on Judicial Power Section 27.1. the Court President before the beginning of each calendar year, shall plan and determine the objectives of the court work in relation to average time periods for the

examination of cases in a court (the standard of time periods for the examination of cases) in cooperation with court judges. The standard of time periods for the examination of cases shall be determined by taking into account the court resources and the necessity to ensure the right of a person to the examination of a case in a reasonable time period and in conformity with other basic principles for the examination of cases. The Court President shall submit the standard case examination time limits for approval to the Judicial Council until 1 February of each year.

067. Do you have specialised personnel entrusted with implementation of these national level quality standards?

	Yes / No
within the courts	() Yes (X) No
within the public prosecution services	() Yes (X) No

Comments

3.6.2 Performance and quality objectives at court level/public prosecution services

077. Concerning court activities, have you defined performance and quality indicators?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

078. If yes, please select the main performance and quality indicators that have been defined for courts:

- [X] number of incoming cases
- [X] length of proceedings (timeframes)
- [X] number of resolved cases
- [X] number of pending cases
- [X] backlogs
- [X] productivity of judges and court staff
- [X] satisfaction of court staff
- [X] satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the courts)
- [X] costs of the judicial procedures
- [X] number of appeals
- [] appeal ratio
- [X] clearance rate
- [] disposition time
- [] other (please specify):

Comments The indicators “productivity of judges and court staff” and “number of appeals” are taken into account when assessing the professional activity of a judge, because the objective of the assessment of the professional activities of a judge is to promote the continuous professional growth of a judge throughout his or her career, thereby improving the quality of the work of the judge and the

court. An Annual evaluation of court staff is also carried out, which is essential for high-quality work of courts.

077-1. Concerning public prosecution activities, have you defined performance and quality indicators?

Yes

No

Comments

078-1. If yes, please select the main performance and quality indicators for the public prosecution services that have been defined:

number of incoming cases

length of proceedings (timeframes)

number of resolved cases

number of pending cases

backlogs

productivity of prosecutors and prosecution staff

satisfaction of prosecution staff

satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the public prosecutors)

costs of the judicial procedures

clearance rate

disposition time

percentage of convictions and acquittals

other (please specify):

Comments

073. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly court performance based primarily on the defined indicators?

Yes

No

Comments

073-0. If yes, please specify the frequency:

Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

Comments - If "Less frequent" or "More frequent", please specify: Evaluation of courts activities are done mainly in two ways: every month and on a basis of request.

The evaluation can happen for a single court or instance at any time for a number of reasons.

An Annual evaluation of court staff is also carried out, which is essential for high-quality work of courts.

073-1. Is this evaluation of the court activity used for the later allocation of resources within this

court?

() Yes

(X) No

Comments Not currently, but there is a suggestion from State Audit Office and a subsequent proposition from Ministry of Justice and Court administration to the Judiciary Council to start to take court work statistical indicators into account when planning annual budget. If necessary, based on workload data resources can be allocated later within a court.

073-2. If yes, which courses of action are taken?

- Identifying to the causes of improved or deteriorated performance
- Reallocating resources (human/financial resources based on performance (treatment))
- Reengineering of internal procedures to increase efficiency (treatment)
- Other (please specify):

Comments

073-3. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly the performance of the public prosecution services based primarily on the defined indicators?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

073-4. If yes, please specify the frequency:

- () Annual
- () Less frequent
- (X) More frequent

Comments - If "less frequent" or "more frequent", please specify: In accordance with the order of the Prosecutor General, a monthly report is prepared on the results of the public prosecutor's work in pre-trial criminal proceedings and the results of the work, which are not related to the progress of pre-trial criminal proceedings.

073-5. Is this evaluation of the activity of public prosecution services used for the later allocation of resources within this public prosecution service?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

073-6. If yes, which courses of action are taken?

- Identifying to the causes of improved or deteriorated performance
- Reallocating resources (human/financial resources based on performance (treatment))
- Reengineering of internal procedures to increase efficiency (treatment)
- Other (please specify):

Comments

=

079. Who is responsible for evaluating the performance of the courts (multiple replies possible)?

High Judicial Council

Ministry of Justice

Inspection authority

Supreme Court

External audit body

Other (please specify): Court Administration – according to the Law on Judicial Power Section 107.1 states that the Court Administration is an institution of direct administration subordinate to the Minister for Justice which organises and ensures the administrative work of district (city) courts, regional courts.

Comments

079-1. Who is responsible for evaluating the performance of the public prosecution services (multiple replies possible)?

Public Prosecutorial Council

Ministry of Justice

Head of the organisational unit or hierarchically superior public prosecutor

Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor

External audit body

Other (please specify):

Comments

3.6.3 Measuring courts’ / public prosecution services activity

070. Do you regularly monitor court activities (performance and quality) concerning:

number of incoming cases

length of proceedings (timeframes)

number of resolved cases

number of pending cases

backlogs

productivity of judges and court staff

satisfaction of court staff

satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the courts)

costs of the judicial procedures

number of appeals

appeal ratio

clearance rate

disposition time

other (please specify):

Comments

070-1. Do you regularly monitor public prosecution activities (performance and quality) concerning:

- number of incoming cases
- length of proceedings (timeframes)
- number of resolved cases
- number of pending cases
- backlogs
- productivity of prosecutors and prosecution staff
- satisfaction of prosecution staff
- satisfaction of users (regarding the services delivered by the by the public prosecution)
- costs of the judicial procedures
- clearance rate
- disposition time
- percentage of convictions and acquittals
- other (please specify):

Comments

071. Do you monitor the number of pending cases and cases that are not processed within a reasonable timeframe (backlogs) for:

- civil law cases
- criminal law cases
- administrative law cases

Comments

072. Do you monitor waiting time during judicial proceedings?

	Yes (If yes, please specify)	No
within the courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Court information system	<input type="checkbox"/>
within the public prosecution services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments

3.6.4 Information regarding courts /public prosecution services activity



080. Is there a centralised institution that is responsible for collecting statistical data regarding the functioning of the courts?

Yes (please indicate the name and the address of this institution):Courts administration of Latvia; Antonijas Street 6, Riga, LV -

No

Comments

080-1. Are the statistics on the functioning of each court published? Yes, on the internet No, only internally (on an intranet website) No

Comments

=

080-2. Is there a centralised institution that is responsible for collecting statistical data regarding the functioning of the public prosecution services? Yes (please indicate the name and the address of this institution): Department for Analysis and Management of the Activities of the Prosecutor General No

Comments

080-3. Are the statistics on the functioning of each public prosecution service published? Yes, on the internet No, only internally (on an intranet website) No

Comments

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081. Are individual courts required to prepare an activity report (that includes, for example, data on the number of resolved cases or pending cases, the number of judges and administrative staff, targets and assessment of the activity)? Yes No

Comments - If yes, please describe the content of the report and its audience (i.e. to whom the report is intended):

081-1. If yes, please specify in which form this report is released: Internet Intranet (internal) website Paper distribution

Comments

081-2. If yes, please, indicate the periodicity at which the report is released: Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

Comments Courts are required to submit this report to the Judiciary Council annually before the end of January.

=

081-3. Are public prosecution services required to prepare an activity report (that includes, for example, data on the number of incoming cases, the number of decisions, the number of public prosecutors and administrative staff, targets and assessment of the activity)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please describe the content of the report and its audience (i.e. to whom the report is intended): The Public Prosecutor's Office shall draw up and submit a report to the Saeima on the progress made in the previous year and the priorities for the next year's activities.

081-4. If yes, please specify in which form this report is released:

Internet

Intranet (internal) website

Paper distribution

Comments

081-5. If yes, please, indicate the periodicity at which the report is released:

Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

Comments

3.6.5 Courts administration

082. Is there a process or structure of dialogue between the public prosecution services and courts regarding the way cases are presented before courts (for example the organisation, number and planning of hearings, on-call service for urgent cases, selection of simplified procedures of prosecution...)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

082-1. Is there in general a process or structure of dialogue between lawyers and courts regarding the way cases are presented before courts in other than criminal matters (e.g. organisation, number and planning of hearings, on-call service for urgent cases)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

3.6.6 Performance and evaluation of judges and public prosecutors

083. Are there quantitative performance targets defined for each judge (e.g. the number of resolved cases in a month or year)?

Yes

No

Comments

083-1. Who is responsible for setting the individual targets for each judge?

Executive power (for example the Ministry of Justice)

Legislative power

Judicial power (for example the High Judicial Council, Supreme Court)

President of the court

Other (please specify):

NAP

Comments

114. Is there a system of qualitative individual assessment of the judges' work?

Yes

No

Comments

114-1. If yes, please specify the frequency of this assessment:

Annual

Less frequent

More frequent

=

083-2. Are there quantitative performance targets defined for each public prosecutor (e.g. the number of decisions in a month or year)?

Yes

No

Comments

083-3. Who is responsible for setting the individual targets for each public prosecutor

Executive power (for example the Ministry of Justice)

Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor

Public Prosecutorial Council

Head of the organisational unit or hierarchically superior public prosecutor

[] Other (please specify):

[] NAP

Comments

120. Is there a system of qualitative individual assessment of the public prosecutors' work?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

120-1. If yes, please specify the frequency of this assessment:

() Annual

(X) Less frequent

() More frequent

Comments Not less than once every five years

C4. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Ministry of Justice, Court Administration, General Prosecutors Office, Law on Judicial Power

4.Fair trial

4.1.Principles

4.1.1Principles of fair trial



084. Percentage of first instance criminal in absentia judgments (cases in which the suspect is not attending the hearing in person nor is represented by a lawyer)?

[]

[X] NA

[] NAP

Comments - Please add methodology for calculation used.

085. Is there a procedure to effectively challenge a judge (recusal), if a party considers that the judge is not impartial?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments - Please could you briefly specify:

085-1. If yes, what is the ratio between the total number of initiated procedures and the total number of recusals pronounced (in the reference year):

[]

[X] NA

Comments

086. Is there in your country a monitoring system for the violations related to Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights?

[X] For civil procedures (non-enforcement)

[X] For civil procedures (timeframe)

[X] For criminal procedures (timeframe)

[] NAP

Comments - Please specify what are the terms and conditions of this monitoring system (information related to acknowledged violations by ECHR at the State/courts level; implementation of internal systems to prevent other violations (that are similar) and if possible to measure an evolution of the established violations):

086-1. 1 Is there in your country a possibility to review a case after a finding of a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights by the European Court of Human Rights?

(X) Yes

() No

[] NAP

Comments Section 478 and 479. of Civil procedure law. It is considered as a newly-discovered circumstance that allows our national court to review a case when violation of the European Convention on Human Rights by the ECHR is established. Section 655 of Criminal Procedure law. Criminal proceedings wherein a valid court judgment or decision, or prosecutor's penal order, exists may be renewed in connection with newly disclosed circumstances. The findings of an international judicial authority regarding the fact that a ruling of Latvia that has entered into effect does not comply with the international laws and regulations binding to Latvia shall be recognised as newly disclosed.

D1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Ministry of Justice

4.2. Timeframe of proceedings

4.2.1 General information

087. Are there specific procedures for urgent matters regarding:

[X] civil cases

[X] criminal cases

[X] administrative cases

[] There is no specific procedure for urgent matters

Comments - If yes, please specify: Civil cases

In 2020 was only possible to secure a claim in monetary disputes and apply provisional measures in certain categories of cases, for example, in cases regarding infringement and protection of the intellectual property rights (Chapter 30.2), cases in respect of disputes

regarding rights and provisional remedy claims in cases of insolvency proceedings (Chapter 30.7), Cases Regarding the Protection of a Trade Secret Against Illegal Acquisition, Use, and Disclosure (Chapter 30.8), cases arising from family relationships (Section 238.1, 244.10, 249.3 of Civil procedure law) and there is also provisional protection against violence (Chapter 30.5).

In 4/20/2021 amendments to the Civil Procedure Law came into force, which introduced a general regulation of provisional measures applicable in all civil disputes. Chapter 19 of Civil procedural law regulates the securing of claim and provisional remedies. For example – Section 137 states that, securing of a claim may be possible in monetary claims if there are reasonable grounds to believe that enforcement of the court judgment in the case may become problematic or impossible. However provisional remedies can be applied in any case (in any actions of monetary or non-monetary nature) if there are grounds for believing that the claimant's rights are or may be infringed until the decision enters into the force and if the application of provisional measures is necessary to prevent possible serious harm. Provisional measures can also be applied in cases where, until the moment the decision enters into the force an interim settlement of the disputed relationship is required, if this is necessary to prevent possible serious damage to the claimant.

Since 4/20/2021 in our Civil procedure law there are provisional measures that can be applicable in any cases and specific provisional measures that can be applicable in certain categories of cases because of their specific nature.

Administrative cases

Article 197, section 1 of the Administrative Procedure law stipulates that a court shall examine a request for an interim measure within a reasonable time limit by taking into account the urgency of the situation but not later than within one month from the day of initiation of the case but if the case has been initiated - from the day of receipt of the request.

088. Are there simplified procedures for:

civil cases (small disputes)

criminal cases (misdemeanour cases)

administrative cases

There is no simplified procedure

Comments - If yes, please specify: Civil cases

In 2020, the Chapter 30.3 of Civil procedure law allows to examine cases of certain categories in the written procedure. For example, according to section 250.19 initiation and examination of cases of simplified procedure in accordance with the procedures provided for in this Chapter shall be permissible only in claims regarding the recovery of money and recovery of maintenance. A judge shall commence a case of simplified procedure on the basis of a written statement of claim, if a principal debt or - in claim regarding the recovery of maintenance - the total amount of payments does not exceed EUR 2500 on the day when the claim was submitted. A court shall initiate a case regarding the recovery of child maintenance in the minimum amount determined by the Cabinet of Ministers if the obstacles referred to in the Maintenance Guarantee Fund Law exist which prevent a person from the receipt of maintenance in the minimum amount determined by the Cabinet from the Maintenance Guarantee Fund. The total amount of payments in claims regarding the recovery of maintenance shall be applicable to each child individually. In accordance with Section 250.20 a statement of claim in simplified procedure shall be drawn up in conformity with the sample approved by the cabinet (the person fills out a special form and submits it to court). In a statement of claim in addition to that specified in Section 128 of this Law it shall be indicated whether a plaintiff requests trial of a case in a court hearing, by substantiating his or her request. Section 250.25 states that if the court does not examine a case of simplified procedure in a court hearing in accordance with Section 250.26 of this Law, the case shall be examined in the written procedure, notifying the parties in a timely manner regarding the date when a true copy of the summary judgment may be received in the Court Registry, as well as inform regarding the composition of the court examining the case, and explain the right to apply for removal of a judge. The date when a true copy of the summary judgment is available in the Court Registry shall be regarded as the day of drawing up a judgment.

English version of Civil procedure law is available here - <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/50500-civil-procedure-law> Order for payment procedure

In Latvia there are two possibilities: the undisputed enforcement of obligations (Chapter 50 of Civil procedure Law) and the enforcement of obligations on court notice (Chapter 50.1 of Civil procedure Law).

Also, information in English version on order for payment procedure about Latvia is available here - https://e-justice.europa.eu/41/EN/european_payment_order?LATVIA&init=true&member=1

Since the 4/20/2021 amendments in Civil Procedure Law and now it is also possible to evict tenants from apartments in simplified procedure in accordance with Chapter 50. Criminal cases

According to Section 424 of the Criminal Procedure Law the person directing the proceedings may apply urgent procedures if: 1) the person who committed the criminal offence has been ascertained; 2) the person has committed a criminal violation, a less serious crime,

or a serious crime; 3) the investigation may be completed within the time period and in the amount provided for urgent procedures. In urgent procedure the person directing the proceedings shall, without delay, but not later than within 10 days or, in cases when an expert-examination must be conducted, not later than within 30 days from initiation of criminal proceedings, shall submit the case materials with a cover letter to the prosecutor (Section 425, Para 2 of the Criminal Procedure Law) and the prosecutor shall, without delay, but not later than within 10 days after receipt of the materials of criminal proceedings, take the decision to transfer the case to a court (Section 426, Para 2 of the Criminal Procedure Law). Administrative cases

For example, the situation regulated in Article 64, section 2 of the Administrative Procedure law may be submitted only in court of first instance. The same order is for the situation regulated in Article 10, section 2 of the Law on Submissions what stipulates that an application on the administrative act or actual actions may be submitted to the Administrative District Court and a court judgement shall not be subject to appeal. Article 109, section 1 of the Administrative Procedure law stipulates that a court of first instance, an administrative case shall be examined by a judge sitting alone. If the case is especially complicated, the chief judge of the court of first instance may stipulate that the case be examined collegially. Article 112.1, section 1 of the Administrative Procedure law stipulates that an administrative case shall be examined in the written procedure without a court hearing unless the law prescribes otherwise. But Article 112.1, section 2 of the Administrative Procedure law stipulates that if a court believes that it would be more useful to examine a case in a court hearing, although the case is to be examined in the written procedure, it may, at its own discretion, determine examination of this case in the oral procedure.

088-1. For these simplified procedures, may judges deliver an oral judgement with a written order and without the full reasoning of the judgement ?

civil cases

criminal cases

administrative cases

Comments - If yes, please specify: Criminal Procedure Law Section 530. Abridged Judgments

(1) An abridged judgment shall consist of an introductory part, a descriptive part and an operative part.

(2) After declaration of the abridged judgment, a court shall issue an extract of the abridged judgment.

(3) A prosecutor, accused, victim, defence counsel or representative, as well as owner of property infringed during criminal proceedings whose property has been seized, may, within 10 days from the day of declaration of the abridged judgment, submit a written request to the court regarding drawing up a full judgment. After the end of the time period for submitting the request, if the request is received regarding drawing up a full judgment, the court shall draw up the full judgment within 14 days by notifying the date of its availability.

(4) If due to the amount, legal complexity of a case or other objective circumstances a full court judgment is not drawn up in a laid down time, a judge shall notify a prosecutor, accused, victim, defence counsel and representative, as well as owner of property infringed during criminal proceedings whose property has been seized when a full court judgment will be available. Drawing up of a full court judgment may be postponed only once.

(5) An abridged judgment shall not be subject to appeal.

Civil procedure Law

According to Section 194 of Civil procedure Law - The court shall draw up a summary decision in cases of simplified procedure. A summary judgment shall be drawn up in accordance with the requirements of Section 193 of this Law, except for the descriptive part in which only the subject-matter of the claim, the laws and regulations on which actions of the participant of the case are based, as well as the claim, and the reasoned part in which only the laws and regulations according to which the court has acted, shall be indicated. The court shall prepare a summary judgment within 14 days.

Section 250.25 (2)1 states that in a simplified procedure the court shall draw up a full motivated judgement if the party submits a request for drawing up a judgment thereto in writing. The request shall be submitted to the court within 10 days from the day of drawing up the summary judgment, and that specified in the second sentence of Section 48, Paragraph four of this Law shall not apply to this period of time. The court may also, upon its own initiative, draw up a full motivated judgment.

089. Do courts and lawyers have the possibility to conclude agreements on arrangements for processing cases (presentation of files, decisions on timeframes for lawyers to submit their conclusions and on dates of hearings)?

Yes



4.2.2 Case flow management – first instance

091. First instance courts: number of other than criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)	23 847 [] NA [] NAP	365 086 [] NA [] NAP	361 417 [] NA [] NAP	27 516 [] NA [] NAP	1 998 [] NA [] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	17 006 [] NA [] NAP	28 907 [] NA [] NAP	27 766 [] NA [] NAP	18 147 [] NA [] NAP	1 918 [] NA [] NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	5 628 [] NA [] NAP	334 482 [] NA [] NAP	331 836 [] NA [] NAP	8 274 [] NA [] NAP	27 [] NA [] NAP
2.1. General civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases, e.g. uncontested payment orders, request for a change of name, non-litigious enforcement cases etc. (if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3; without registry cases and other cases, see categories 2.2 and 2.3)	5 628 [] NA [] NAP	59 368 [] NA [] NAP	56 722 [] NA [] NAP	8 274 [] NA [] NAP	27 [] NA [] NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	0 [] NA [] NAP	275 114 [] NA [] NAP	275 114 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	0 [] NA [] NAP	275 114 [] NA [] NAP	275 114 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.2.2 Non-litigious business registry cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2.2.3. Other registry cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2.3. Other non-litigious cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
3. Administrative law cases	1 213 [] NA [] NAP	1 697 [] NA [] NAP	1 815 [] NA [] NAP	1 095 [] NA [] NAP	53 [] NA [] NAP

4. Other cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments The number of resolved and incoming cases of general civil (commercial) non litigious cases are higher because there was significant increase on applications for the undisputed enforcements. Usually, cases on the undisputed enforcement are submitted electronically and solved in written procedure. The increment of such cases are probably closely connected with activities of creditors` intensity.

We cannot find the main reason why pending cases older than 2 years are resolved more than in previous years. Representatives of courts point out the effect of Covid19 restrictions because many old cases were re-classified from oral to written procedure if it was possible and if parties of case agreed to that.

092. If courts deal with “civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases”, please indicate the case categories included:

. 1) Applications for securing claim prior to initiation of the matter in a court and for securing of evidence; 2) Applications for securing claim prior to initiation of the matter in a court; 3) Applications for securing of evidence prior to initiation of the matter in a court; 4) Applications for execution of obligations through the court; 5) Undisputed compulsory execution of obligations; 6) Execution of obligations in accordance with warning procedures; 7) Voluntary sale of immovable property at auction through the court; 8) Submitting the subject-matter of an obligation for safekeeping in the court; 9) Applications for Comercial Court adjudication execution procedures; 10) Applications for arbitrary court decision compulsory execution; 11) Applications for property protection if there is no inheritance case; 12) Applications concerning execution of court adjudications.

093. Please indicate the case categories included in the category "other cases":

. NAP

094. First instance courts: number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)	5 895 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	15 022 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	13 696 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	7 221 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	913 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	4 052 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	8 391 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	7 941 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 502 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	898 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	1 843 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 631 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	5 755 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	2 719 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	15 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3. Other criminal cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please specify what cases are reported in those categories. If “Other criminal cases”, please specify Data on resolved severe criminal cases is decreased because of Covid-19 restrictions. We have already pointed out the limitations of court work: written procedure, prohibition of face-to-face meetings, cancellation of court hearings etc.

4.2.3 Case flow management – second instance

097. Second instance courts (appeal): Number of “other than criminal law” cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the second instance court
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)	1 945 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 495 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	5 006 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 434 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	69 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	1 323 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 384 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 715 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	992 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	65 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	28 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	192 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	193 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	27 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.1. General civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases, e.g. uncontested payment orders, request for a change of name, non-litigious enforcement cases etc. (if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3; without registry cases and other cases, see categories 2.2 and 2.3)	28 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	192 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	193 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	27 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2.2 Non-litigious business registry cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.2.3. Other registry cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

2.3. Other non-litigious cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Administrative law cases	594 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	919 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 098 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	415 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Other cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If "Other cases" please specify Data on civil (commercial) litigious cases (number of resolved and incoming cases) is lower due to the Covid19 pandemic. On March 14 2020 there was the state of emergency that affected the work of courts. In order to mitigate potential risks of virus, oral proceedings that did not involve serious violations of rights were cancelled. This restriction directly affected the number of resolved cases. Also, there were restrictions on appearance of persons in the court, that affected the number of new claims or request - incoming cases. The first state of emergency lasted till June 2020. The second state of emergency started in November 2020. Number on civil (commercial) non - litigious cases include the data like in the first instance. Mainly there are cases on undisputed enforcement. Usually, non-litigious cases are resolved in written (not oral) process, and during State of emergency oral processes were not allowed, but there were no restriction on written process. According to this the number of non-litigious cases are higher. Number on incoming administrative cases are lower. It is connected with restrictions of state emergency situation when representatives from institutions could not check, revise, visit companies (individuals) in the face-to-face meetings.

098. Second instance courts (appeal): Number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the second instance court
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)	650 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	2 736 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	2 774 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	612 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	20 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	450 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 344 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 352 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	442 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	20 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	200 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 392 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 422 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	170 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Other cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please indicate the categories of cases reported in the category "serious offences" and cases reported in the category "minor offences". If "Other cases", please specify. In 2020 there was changes in Administrative Procedure Law, that might affect the amount of resolved cases.

Furthermore, number of misdemeanour and / or minor cases are higher in the appeal courts because in last years the Constitutional court has declared several norms on administrative infringements are not incompatible with the Constitution of Latvia. This led to an increase of incoming administrative cases.

4.2.4 Case flow management – Supreme Court

099. Highest instance courts (Supreme Court): Number of "other than criminal law" cases:



	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the Supreme Court
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)	1 500 [] NA [] NAP	1 953 [] NA [] NAP	2 295 [] NA [] NAP	1 158 [] NA [] NAP	137 [] NA [] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	647 [] NA [] NAP	1 104 [] NA [] NAP	1 332 [] NA [] NAP	419 [] NA [] NAP	13 [] NA [] NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	2 [] NA [] NAP	23 [] NA [] NAP	23 [] NA [] NAP	2 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.1. General civil (and commercial) non-litigious cases, e.g. uncontested payment orders, request for a change of name, non-litigious enforcement cases etc. (if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3; without registry cases and other cases, see categories 2.2 and 2.3)	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	1 [] NA [] NAP	22 [] NA [] NAP	21 [] NA [] NAP	2 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	1 [] NA [] NAP	22 [] NA [] NAP	21 [] NA [] NAP	2 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.2.2 Non-litigious business registry cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2.2.3. Other registry cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2.3. Other non-litigious cases	1 [] NA [] NAP	1 [] NA [] NAP	2 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. Administrative law cases	851 [] NA [] NAP	826 [] NA [] NAP	940 [] NA [] NAP	737 [] NA [] NAP	124 [] NA [] NAP
4. Other cases	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "Other cases", please specify There has been gradual decrease of incoming cases: civil cases 1336 (2018), 1164 (2019), 1127 (2020) and administrative cases 850 (2018), 844 (2019), 826 (2020). There has been increase of examined cases per judge of the Administrative chamber (+4) and there was additional judge from the Civil chamber allocated to deal with administrative cases (February-

September 2019) and substitute judge working at the Supreme Court (September-December 2020). As result the clearance rate for administrative cases in 2019 was 113% and in 2020 was 114%.

The clearance rate for civil cases (Civil chamber) was 120% which is explained by decrease of incoming cases and high number of examined cases per judge (97 cases). Decrease of non-litigious land registry cases is explained, first, by decrease of total numbers of transaction, for example according to the statistics published by the State Cadastre, total number of transaction of land with buildings was 21619 in 2019 and 18616 in 2020. And, second, because majority of land registry cases of previous years concerned aspects of transformation of property rights (privatization and restitution) and economic activity before economic crises of 2008/2009 which are solved by now. Starting from 2019 the Supreme Court uses the same categories of cases as it is used in the first and second instance courts. Therefore previously used category „other cases” disappears.

099-1. At the level of the Highest court (Supreme Court), is there a procedure of manifest inadmissibility?

(X) Yes, please indicate the number of cases closed by this procedure: 2000

() No

Comments 400 criminal cases, 1017 civil cases and 583 administrative cases). This figure shows the total of cases refused to examine in cassation, grounds for refusal are different.

100. Highest instance courts (Supreme Court): Number of criminal law cases.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the Supreme Court
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)	141 [] NA [] NAP	686 [] NA [] NAP	650 [] NA [] NAP	177 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
3. Other criminal cases	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comment - If you cannot make a distinction between misdemeanour criminal cases and severe criminal cases (according to the CEPEJ definitions), please specify what cases are reported in those categories.. If “Other criminal cases”, please specify During last two years 3 out of 8 judges (after increase of number of judges – 9 judges) have retired. Some additional time was needed to replace them (competition and appointment). There was significant decrease of examined cases in 2020 (clearance rate was 102% in 2019 and 95% in 2020) and increase of received cases in 2019: 734 (2018), 764 (2019) and 686 (2020).

4.2.5 Case flow management and timeframes – specific cases

101. Number of specific litigious cases received and processed by first instance courts.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec ref. year	Pending for more than 2 years
Litigious divorce cases	1 046 [] NA [] NAP	1 254 [] NA [] NAP	1 327 [] NA [] NAP	973 [] NA [] NAP	23 [] NA [] NAP

Employment dismissal cases	211 [] NA [] NAP	341 [] NA [] NAP	353 [] NA [] NAP	199 [] NA [] NAP	23 [] NA [] NAP
Insolvency	3 643 [] NA [] NAP	1 542 [] NA [] NAP	2 182 [] NA [] NAP	3 003 [] NA [] NAP	372 [] NA [] NAP
Robbery case	119 [] NA [] NAP	152 [] NA [] NAP	135 [] NA [] NAP	136 [] NA [] NAP	19 [] NA [] NAP
Intentional homicide	59 [] NA [] NAP	47 [] NA [] NAP	44 [] NA [] NAP	62 [] NA [] NAP	7 [] NA [] NAP

Comments There are minor changes in statistical data due to Covid-19 pandemic. The pandemic affected the hearings of the cases and procedure, because there were several case groups that were solved in written way affecting average length of the hearings.



=

101-0. Number of procedures/cases relating to asylum seekers and to the right of entry and stay for aliens.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec ref. year	Pending for more than 2 years
Non-court procedures relating to asylum seekers (refugee status under the 1951 Geneva Convention)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Non-court procedures relating to the right of entry and stay for aliens	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Court cases relating to asylum seekers (refugee status under the 1951 Geneva Convention)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Court cases relating to the right of entry and stay for aliens	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments Statistical data on administrative cases in courts concerning asylum seekers and the right of entry for aliens are not calculated and listed separately.

101-1. Could you briefly describe the system in your country dealing with legal remedies relating to asylum seekers (refugee status under the 1951 Geneva Convention) and the right of entry and stay for aliens:

. Judicial remedies relating to asylum seekers:

The rights, including rights to legal remedies, of an asylum seeker are laid down in Asylum Law (adopted on December 17, 2015; in force since January 19, 2016) which transposes relevant EU asylum acquis.

According to the Asylum Law, an asylum seeker can appeal administrative decisions taken by the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs in asylum cases to the Administrative District Court regarding asylum seeker's transfer to the responsible Member State, which will examine the application in accordance with Regulation No 604/2013; decision to leave the application without

examination; decision to grant or refuse to grant refugee or subsidiary protection status and decision to discontinue examination of the application or refusal to reopen the examination of application, as well as the decision on the withdrawal of the refugee or subsidiary protection status. Furthermore, an asylum seeker has the right to appeal the decisions taken within the asylum procedure by the State Border Guard (detention, obligation to register in the SBG unit) to the District Court.

It is ensured that the documents submitted for the appeal procedure are translated from the State budget resources by the institution which examines the relevant application or claim. The information on the appeal procedure, as well as the decision of the District Administrative Court, which is final and can not be appealed, is provided in a language which an asylum seeker understands or is reasonably supposed to understand. Moreover, an asylum seeker is exempted from the State fee for the submission of an application to the court in the amount laid down in the laws and regulations. In case an asylum seeker does not have sufficient financial resources, he/she has the right to apply for the State ensured legal aid (free of charge) in the appeal procedure. The amount of the free of charge legal aid is determined in the relevant national legislation. If an asylum seeker appeals decisions taken by the State Border Guard, no financial means test is performed.

Judicial remedies relating to the right of entry and stay for aliens:

The rights of entry and stay for aliens are laid down in Immigration Law (adopted on October 31, 2002; in force since May 1, 2003). According to the Immigration law, a foreigner has the right to contest the decision to refuse, annul or revoke a visa by submitting a relevant application and other documents in Latvian, English or Russian to the institution which was responsible for taking the decision, in a procedure as it is specified in the aforementioned law. A foreigner may appeal the decision on the contested administrative act to the Administrative District Court in accordance with the procedures laid down in law. The adjudication of the court is final and cannot be appealed.

If a foreigner has been refused entry in the Republic of Latvia, he/she has the right to dispute in the diplomatic and consular representation the decision on refusal to enter within 30 days after taking of the decision. The request is examined by the Chief of the State Border Guard or an official authorised by him or her. A decision on the contested administrative act may be appealed to the Administrative District Court in accordance with the procedures laid down in law. The adjudication of the court is final and cannot be appealed.

An inviter or a foreigner for whom in accordance with national legislation an invitation for requesting a residence permit is not necessary, has the right to dispute a decision to refuse to issue or register a residence permit or to annul it to the Head of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs and also to appeal to a court a decision that was taken by the Head of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs. Regarding the foreigners, in relation to whom a removal order has been issued, the Head of the institution which has issued the removal order (either Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs or State Border Guard) has the right to revoke the removal order, if the foreigner has applied for the voluntary return programme and the relevant international organisation has informed the institution, which issued the removal order.

An official of the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs or of the State Border Guard shall acquaint a foreigner in a language, which he or she understands or which he or she should justifiably understand, if necessary, using the services of an interpreter, with the voluntary return decision or the removal order, legal obligation imposed on the addressee, with the decision to include in the list and the decision on the entry ban in the Schengen territory included therein, explaining where and in what period of time the administrative act may be contested or appealed. Furthermore, upon request of a foreigner the institution, which issued the relevant administrative act, shall ensure the translation of the main components of the voluntary return decision or removal order (the establishment of facts, justification of the administrative deed, legal obligation imposed on the addressee, an indication where and in what period of time the administrative deed may be contested or appealed). A foreigner has the right, within seven days after entering into effect of a voluntary return decision or a removal order and the decision included therein to include in the list and to prohibit entering the Schengen territory, to contest these to a higher national authority. A decision of a higher authority may be appealed to the Administrative District Court within seven days from the day when it entered into effect. A judgment of the Administrative District Court may be appealed by submitting a cassation complaint to the Department of Administrative Cases of the Supreme Court Senate. A foreigner has the right to State ensured legal aid in the appeal procedure to the Administrative District Court in return cases, if he does not have sufficient resources, he/she is residing in the Republic of Latvia and execution of the voluntary return decision or removal order issued in relation to him or her is suspended. In cases, a person is detained according to the procedures laid down in the Immigration Law, he/she also has the right to free legal aid (without financial means test being performed).

101-2. Number of cases relating to child sexual abuse and child pornography received and processed by first instance courts.

	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Child sexual abuse	50 [] NA [] NAP	44 [] NA [] NAP	25 [] NA [] NAP	69 [] NA [] NAP	12 [] NA [] NAP
Child pornography	26 [] NA [] NAP	32 [] NA [] NAP	36 [] NA [] NAP	22 [] NA [] NAP	5 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please explain what are the legal definitions of these categories of offences in your system: Data related on number of cases relating to child sexual abuse and child pornography are collected according to criminal Law of Latvia. Data on cases about child sexual abuse are collected according to the Article 159.2., 159.3., 160.3., 160.4., 160.5. Data on child pornography are collected according to the Articles 166.2., 166.3., 166.4 of Criminal Law of Latvia.

102. Percentage of decisions subject to appeal, average length of proceedings and percentage of cases pending for more than 3 years for all instances for specific litigious cases. The average length of proceedings has to be calculated from the date the application for judicial review is lodged to the date the judgment is made, without taking into account the investigation phase in criminal cases as well as enforcement procedure.

	% of decisions subject to appeal	Average length in 1st instance (in days)	Average length in 2nd instance (in days)	Average length in 3rd instance (in days)	Average total length of the total procedure (in days)	% of cases pending for more than 3 years for all instances
Civil and commercial litigious cases	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 13 [] NA [] NAP	267 [] NA [] NAP	116 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 [X] NA [] NAP
Litigious divorce cases	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 5 [] NA [] NAP	269 [] NA [] NAP	111 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 [X] NA [] NAP
Employment dismissal cases	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 25 [] NA [] NAP	211 [] NA [] NAP	115 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 [X] NA [] NAP
Insolvency cases	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 3 [] NA [] NAP	735 [] NA [] NAP	30 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 [X] NA [] NAP

Robbery cases	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 25 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	226 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	99 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Intentional homicide cases	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 75 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	396 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	110 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	_____ Max numeric value allowed : 100 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments In general, concerning the average length of proceeding in 2nd instance courts, the pandemic affected the hearings of the cases and the procedure, because there were several case groups that were solved in written way affecting average length of the hearings. If a concrete cases could not be seen in a written procedure, it was postponed until it could be examined in presence court hearing.

Employment dismissal cases - The cases were adjudicated more in written procedure due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Robbery cases - the length of proceeding were also affected due to the Covid-19 pandemic, because cases were adjudicated more in written procedure without checking the evidence. Intentional homicide cases - the length of proceedings in first instance courts were longer, because due to the Covid-19 pandemic court cases could not take place in the face-to-face court hearings.

103. Where appropriate, please indicate the specific procedure regarding divorce cases (litigious and non-litigious):

. There is no specific procedure as regards divorce cases.

104. How is the length of proceedings calculated for the six case categories of question 102? Please give a description of the calculation method.

. Regardless of the type of case, the average length of proceedings is calculated = (judement`s date – application date) / number of resolved cases.

4.2.6 Case flow management – public prosecution

105. Role and powers of the public prosecutor in the criminal procedure (multiple options possible):

- to conduct or supervise police investigation
- to conduct investigations
- when necessary, to request investigation measures from the judge
- to charge
- to present the case in court
- to propose a sentence to the judge
- to appeal

to supervise the enforcement procedure

to discontinue a case without needing a decision by a judge (ensure consistency with question 36!)

to end the case by imposing or negotiating a penalty or measure without requiring a judicial decision

other significant powers (please specify): A public prosecutor is entitled to protect the rights and legitimate interests of persons and of the State in accordance with the procedures specified in the Law, as well as to submit an application for an action or an application to a court and to participate in the adjudication of cases in court. On the other hand, the criteria according to which the public prosecutor is guided when deciding the question regarding the need for verification are laid down in Section 16 of the Law on the Public Prosecutor's Office.

Comments

106. Does the public prosecutor also have a role in:

civil cases

administrative cases

insolvency cases

Comments - If yes, please specify:

107. Public prosecutors: Total number of 1st instance criminal cases.

	Number of cases
1. Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	490 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Incoming/received cases	12 734 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Processed cases (3.1+3.2+3.3+3.4)	12 255 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1. Discontinued during the reference year (3.1.1+3.1.2+3.1.3+3.1.4.)	1 545 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1.1 Discontinued by the public prosecutor because the offender could not be identified	16 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1.2 Discontinued by the public prosecutor due to the lack of an established offence or a specific legal situation	330 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1.3 Discontinued by the public prosecutor for reasons of opportunity	242 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1.4 Discontinued for other reasons	957 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.2. Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor	2 337 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.3. Cases closed by the public prosecutor for other reasons	285 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3.4.Cases brought to court	8 088 [] NA [] NAP
4.Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	362 [] NA [] NAP

Comments Cases brought to court

8088 cases with the total number of criminal offenses - 14158

The vertical consistency cannot be ensured because in 2020, there were 520 cases that were added to other cases and 91 cases were returned to the investigative authorities to continue the investigation. These cases are not included in the subcategories of Q107. 3.1.4 Discontinued for other reasons: the cases included in this category are, for example, the cases in which the prosecutor took a decision to terminate criminal proceedings by conditionally releasing from criminal liability a person who has been accused of committing a serious crime and who has substantially assisted in the disclosure of a serious or especially serious crime that is more serious or dangerous than the criminal offence committed by the relevant person himself / herself. The information compiled in the information system of the Prosecution Office shows that in 2020, prosecutors took 2 decisions to terminate criminal proceedings based on Paragraph prim of Section 415 of the Criminal Procedure Law. Besides, for 2020, in this category are included 955 cases in which criminal proceedings were suspended.

3.3. Cases closed by the public prosecutor for other reasons: the cases included in this category are, for example, the cases in which the Prosecutor General has made a decision to terminate criminal proceedings against a person who has substantially assisted in the disclosure of a serious or especially serious crime that is more serious or dangerous than a criminal offence committed by such person himself / herself. In 2020, Prosecutor General has not terminated any criminal proceedings based on Article 410 of the Criminal Procedure Law. For 2020, in this category are included 285 cases that were sent in accordance with the relevant jurisdiction (including – abroad). The category “3.1. Discontinued during the reference year” decreased because 365 cases in which the prosecutor took a decision to terminate the criminal proceedings by conditionally releasing a person from criminal liability for the commission of a criminal offense or a less serious crime were included in the category “3.2. Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor”. This also explains the increase in the latter category.

107-1. If the guilty plea procedure exists, how many cases were concluded by this procedure?

	Total	Severe criminal cases	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases
Total number of guilty plea procedures	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
Before the main trial	1 630 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
During the main trial	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments

109. Do the figures provided in Q107 include traffic offence cases?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

D2. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: General Prosecutor Office

5. Career of judges and public prosecutors

5.1. Recruitment and promotion

5.1.1 Recruitment and promotion of judges

110. How are judges recruited?

- mainly through a competitive exam (open competition)
- mainly through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)
- a combination of both (competitive exam and working experience)
- other (please specify):

Comments

111. Authority(ies) responsible for recruitment - are judges initially/at the beginning of their career recruited and nominated by:

- An authority made up of judges only
- An authority made up of non-judges only
- An authority/authorities made up of judges and non-judges
- Other

Comments - Please indicate the name of the authority(ies) involved in the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of judges. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles: In 2020, the selection procedure for judges has changed. Selection commission for candidates for the position of judge. It is composed only of judges.

Applicable to the courts of first and appeal instances - The selection of judges shall be performed by the selection commission of candidates for the position of a judge. The Minister for Justice shall direct candidates for appointment or approval. The judge shall be appointed or approved by the Parliament (Saeima). The court in which the duties of the judge are to be fulfilled shall be determined by the Board of Justice. Before the performance of the duties of a judge, the oath or solemn declaration shall be taken by the President of the State.

111-1. How many members compose this authority?

	Total	Male	Female
Members	9 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	9 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments – Please specify what is the status of this authority and who is proposing its members?

111-2. May non-selected candidates appeal against the decision on recruitment/appointment?

- Yes
- No

Comments – please specify which body is competent to decide on appeal?

112. Is the same authority (Q111) competent for the promotion of judges?

- Yes

No

Comments

113. What is the procedure for the promotion of judges? (multiple answers possible)

Competitive test / Exam

Other procedure (interview or other)

No special procedure

Comments - Please specify how the promotion procedure for judges is organised (especially if there is no competition or examination):

113-1. Please indicate the criteria used for the promotion of a judge? (multiple replies possible)

Years of experience

Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)

Performance (quantitative)

Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)

Other

No criteria

Comments - Please specify any useful comment regarding the criteria (especially if you have checked the box "performance" or "other"): Judges of a higher court provide feedback on the professional skills of a judge by analyzing the quality of the decisions taken. The highest court provides information on cases in which the prosecutor's protest has been received.

5.1.2 Status, recruitment and promotion of prosecutors

115. What is the status of public prosecution services?

Has an independent status as a separate entity among state institutions

Is part of the executive power but enjoys functional independence (please briefly explain how and to what extent)

Is part of the executive power (without functional independence)

Is part of the judicial power but enjoys functional independence (please briefly explain how and to what extent)

Is part of the judicial power (without functional independence)

Is a mixed model (please explain)

Has other status (please explain)

Comments - When appropriate, please specify the objective guarantees of this independence (such as funding) and where they are enshrined (Constitution, legislation etc.). Furthermore, if "mixed model" or "other", please specify. In accordance with Paragraph one, Section 1, of the Law on the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Prosecutor's Office shall be an autonomous (non-legislative and executive) judicial authority, which shall independently perform supervision over the observance of legality within the scope of the competence specified by law. The prosecutor's office has a separate budget.

This Law firmly stipulates that neither the Parliament (Saeima), the Cabinet of Ministers, nor any other State or local government institution or official, nor the persons have the right to intervene in the work of the Prosecutor's Office during the performance of the investigation of cases or other functions of the Prosecutor's Office. On the other hand, for attempts to illegally influence a prosecutor or to interfere with the activities of the prosecutor's office, the person shall be held liable under the law.

The independence of the public prosecutor in the taking of decisions, when examining specific cases, shall be determined by Section 5 and Section 6, Paragraph four of the Law on the Prosecutor's Office.

115-1. Does the law or other regulation prevent specific instructions to prosecute or not, addressed

to a public prosecutor?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

115-2. If you answered “Yes” to Q115-1, are there exceptions provided by the law/regulations?

Yes

No

Comments - Please describe these exceptions:

115-3. If you answered “No” to Q115-1, which authority can issue the specific instructions?

General Prosecutor

Higher prosecutor/Head of prosecution office

Executive power

Other

Comments - If “Other”, please specify: In office, a higher prosecutor is entitled to give instructions or accept any case in his or her proceedings, but is not entitled to give instructions or to instruct the prosecutor to take action against his conviction

115-4. What form these instructions may take?

Oral instruction

Oral instruction with written confirmation

Written instruction

Other

NAP

Comments - If “Other”, please specify:

115-5. In that case, are the instructions:

Issued seeking prior advice from the competent public prosecutor

Mandatory

Reasoned

Recorded in the case file

Other

NAP

Comments - If “Other”, please specify:

115-6. What is the frequency of this type of instructions:

Exceptional

Occasional

Frequent

Systematic

NAP

115-7. Can the public prosecutor oppose/report an instruction to an independent body?

- Yes
- No
- NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify to which body/institution and please describe under which conditions.

116. How are public prosecutors recruited?

- mainly through a competitive exam (open competition)
- mainly through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)
- a combination of both (competitive exam and working experience)
- other (please specify):

Comments The Prosecutor General may remove from the examination of general and legal knowledge a person who has successfully passed an examination of the qualification of a judge or lawyer during the last three years who has previously worked for the position of prosecutor or who complies with the requirements of a judge, academic staff of the speciality of higher education law or a sworn lawyer for the candidacy of a prosecutor specified in Sections 34 and 35 of the Law of the Prosecutor. position. However, in accordance with Section 33, Paragraph two of the Law on the Prosecutor General may release a person who complies with the requirements specified in Sections 34 and 35 of the Law referred to in Section 33 of the Law of the Prosecutor General, who conforms to the judge, academic staff of the speciality of high school law or a sworn lawyer, also from taking a qualification examination.

117. Authority(ies) responsible for recruitment - Are public prosecutors initially/at the beginning of their career recruited by:

- An authority composed of public prosecutors only
- An authority composed of non-public prosecutors only
- An authority composed of public prosecutors and non-public prosecutors
- Other

Comments - Please indicate the name of the authority(ies) involved in the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of public prosecutors. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles: The decision of the Council of the Prosecutor General stipulates that applicants for the position of prosecutor shall be subject to an examination of general and legal knowledge. At the same time, in accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Statute for the selection of candidates for the position of prosecutors, the Prosecutor General may exempt from the examination of general and legal knowledge a person who has successfully passed a qualification examination of a judge or lawyer for the last three years, who has previously worked in the position of a prosecutor or who corresponds to a judge, academic staff of a speciality of high school law or a jury or a jury. a qualified lawyer for the requirements specified in Sections 34 and 35 of the Law on the Prosecutor's Office for standing as a public prosecutor. From 6 August 2021, the Prosecutor General may also remove from the examination of general and legal knowledge a person who has passed the State uniform legal qualification examination. The assessment of the knowledge of applicants shall be performed by the Commission for the Qualification of Prosecutors, and the applicants who have successfully passed the examination shall be recommended for further evaluation by the Commission for the Certification of Prosecutors, who shall give an opinion regarding the conformity of the applicant with the status of the candidate for the position of a public prosecutor. A traineeship agreement shall be concluded with this candidate until the decision on his or her eligibility for the position of public prosecutor has been decided. Only after the successful execution of the internship programme, the passing of the qualification examination and the receipt of the opinion of the Commission for the attestation of prosecutors regarding compliance with the position of the public prosecutor may the person be appointed to the office of the public prosecutor.

117-1. How many members compose this authority?

	Total	Male	Female
Members	9 [] NA [] NAP	2 [] NA [] NAP	7 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please specify what is the status of this authority and who is proposing its members? In the table is indicated the members of the Commission for the Qualification of Prosecutors.

The Commission for the Certification of Prosecutors are composed from 9 members (4 male, 5 female).

117-2. May non-selected candidates appeal against the decision on recruitment/appointment?

Yes

No

Comments - Please specify which body is competent to decide on appeal?

118. Is the same authority (Q.117) formally responsible for the promotion of public prosecutors?

Yes

No, please specify which authority is competent for promoting public prosecutors

Comments

119. What is the procedure for the promotion of prosecutors? (multiple answers possible)

Competitive test / exam

Other procedure (interview or other)

No special procedure

Comments - Please specify how the promotion procedure for prosecutors is organised (especially if there is no competition or examination): Before raising a prosecutor in the position, the Commission for the Certification of Prosecutors shall issue an opinion regarding the conformity of the prosecutor with the position of prosecutor and shall make a proposal to the Prosecutor General to raise a specific prosecutor in the position. The Commission for the Certification of Prosecutors shall evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the performance of the professional duties of a public prosecutor, work experience, organisation of individual work, participation in refresher measures, statistical indicators of work, etc. criteria.

119-2. Please indicate the criteria used for the promotion of a prosecutor:

Years of experience

Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)

Performance (quantitative)

Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)

Other

No criteria

Comments - Please, specify any useful comment regarding the criteria (especially if you have checked the box "performance" or "other"):

5.1.3Mandate and retirement of judges and prosecutors

121. Are judges appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

Yes, please indicate the compulsory retirement age:70

No

Comments - If yes, are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify: A judge may be removed from office on a proposal from the Disciplinary Board of Judges or if the judge has been convicted and the judgment of the court has entered into lawful effect. A judge may be dismissed if a judge has received a negative opinion (negative assessment twice in succession) in the assessment of the professional activities of a repeat judge.

121-1. Can a judge be transferred to another court without his/her consent:

For disciplinary reasons

For organisational reasons

For other reasons (please specify modalities and safeguards):in case of court reorganisation

No

Comments According to the Law on Judicial Power, Section 73.2 prim, if a district (city) court is being reorganised in accordance with the Law on Judicial Power, the Judicial Council shall, upon a proposal of the Minister for Justice, decide on the transfer of a judge of the district (city) court (also without his or her consent) to work in another district (city) court within the territory of operation of the same regional court or the territory of operation of another regional court, if the reorganised district (city) court is merged with a district (city) court which is located in the territory of operation of another regional court. The Judicial Council shall determine the procedures by which the respective proposal shall be prepared and examined in a meeting of the Judicial Council.

122. Is there a probation period for judges (e.g. before being appointed "for life")? If yes, how long is this period?

Yes, duration of the probation period (in years):3

No

Comments

123. Are public prosecutors appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

Yes, please indicate the compulsory retirement age:65

No

Comments - If yes, are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify:

124. Is there a probation period for public prosecutors? If yes, how long is this period?

Yes, duration of the probation period (in years):0.5

No

Comments

125. If the mandate for judges is not for an undetermined period (see question 121), what is the length of the mandate (in years)?

[]

NA

NAP

Comments

125-1. Is it renewable?

- Yes
- No
- NAP

Comments

126. If the mandate for public prosecutors is not for an undetermined period (see question 123), what is the length of the mandate (in years)?

- []
- NA
- NAP

Comments

126-1. Is it renewable?

- Yes
- No
- NAP

Comments

E1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Court Administration, Prosecutor General Office

5.2. Training

5.2.1 Training of judges

127. Types of different trainings offered to judges:

	Compulsory	Optional	No training proposed
Initial training (e.g. attend a judicial school, traineeship in a court)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
General in-service training	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In-service training for specialised judicial functions (e.g. judge for economic or administrative issues)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In-service training for management functions of the court (e.g. court president)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

In-service training on ethics	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training on child-friendly justice	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No

Comments

128. Frequency of the in-service training of judges:

	Frequency of the judges training
General in-service training	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for specialised judicial functions (e.g. judge for economic or administrative issues)	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for management functions of the court (e.g. court president)	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in courts	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training on ethics	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed
In-service training on child-friendly justice	[X] Regularly (for example every year) [] Occasional (as needed) [] No training proposed

Comments - Please indicate any information on the periodicity of the continuous training of judges:

5.2.2 Training of prosecutors

129. Types of different trainings offered to public prosecutors:

	Compulsory	Optional	No training proposed
Initial training	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
General in-service training	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for specialised functions (e.g. public prosecutors specialised in organised crime)	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No

In-service training for management functions (e.g. Head of prosecution office, manager)	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in office	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training on ethics	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training on child-friendly justice	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No

Comments

130. Frequency of the in-service training of public prosecutors :

	Frequency of the in-service training
General in-service training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training for specialised functions (e.g. public prosecutor specialised in organised crime)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training for management functions (e.g. Head of prosecution office, manager)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in office	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training on ethics	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
In-service training on child-friendly justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed

Comments - Please indicate any information on the periodicity of the in-service training of prosecutors:

5.2.3 Training institutions

131. Do you have public training institutions for judges and / or prosecutors?

	Initial training only	Continuous training only	Initial and continuous training
Institution(s) for judges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Institution(s) for prosecutors	[]	[]	[]
Institution(s) for both judges and prosecutors	[]	[]	[]

Comments There is no equivalent training institution with regard to prosecutors. However, a successful cooperation can be observed for the last years between the LJTC and the Prosecutor's Office. Each year, prosecutors are granted the opportunity to attend seminars in a wide range of professional topics.

131-0. If yes, what is the budget of such institution(s)?

	Budget of the institution(s) for the reference year, in €
Institution(s) for judges	168 631 [] NA [] NAP
Institution(s) for prosecutors	[] NA [X] NAP
Institution(s) for both judges and prosecutors	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments

131-1. If judges and/or prosecutors have no compulsory initial training in such institutions, please indicate briefly how these judges and/or prosecutors are trained?

. A specialised training centre has not been established for the training of prosecutors, as is the case for judges - the Latvian Judicial Training Centre. However, the Prosecutor's Office has permanent cooperation with the Latvian Judicial Training Centre in relation to the provision of professional development (training) activities of prosecutors.

5.2.4 Number of trainings

131-2. Number of in-service training courses available and delivered (in days) by the public institution(s) responsible for training

	Number of in-person training courses available	Number of delivered in-person training courses in days	Online training courses available during the reference year (e-learning)
Total	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
1. For judges	23 [] NA [] NAP	5 [] NA [] NAP	24 [] NA [] NAP
2. For prosecutors	171 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

3. For other non-judge staff	27 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	21 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	43 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. For other non-prosecutor staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
5. Training for other professionals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments – please specify if there are training courses of judges and/or prosecutors that include other professionals in the field of justice. In 2020, due Covid-19 pandemic trainings were mostly organized in remote form.

131-3. Number of participants of the training courses during the reference year

	Number of participants in in-person training courses	Number of participants in online training courses (e-learning)
Total	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Judges	705 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	131 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Prosecutors	408 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Non-judge staff	622 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	457 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Non-prosecutor staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other professionals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

5.3. Practice of the profession

5.3.1 Salaries and benefits of judges and prosecutors

132. Salaries of judges and public prosecutors on 31 December of the reference year:

	Gross annual salary, in €	Net annual salary, in €	Gross annual salary, in local currency	Net annual salary, in local currency
First instance professional judge at the beginning of his/her career	34 104 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	23 859 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	34 104 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	23 859 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Judge of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court (please indicate the average salary of a judge at this level, and not the salary of the Court President)	56 093 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	39 690 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	56 093 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	39 690 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Public prosecutor at the beginning of his/her career	33 396 [] NA [] NAP	23 376 [] NA [] NAP	33 396 [] NA [] NAP	23 376 [] NA [] NAP
Public prosecutor of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Instance (please indicate the average salary of a public prosecutor at this level, and not the salary of the Attorney General).	41 411 [] NA [] NAP	28 842 [] NA [] NAP	41 411 [] NA [] NAP	28 842 [] NA [] NAP

Comments Prosecutors shall be entitled to a supplement for the ranking of the public prosecutor, depending on the degree of office assigned. The ranking of a public prosecutor shall be assigned according to the position, professional knowledge, qualifications and experience of work.

Question 132 indicates the minimum gross and net public remuneration.

Discrepancies with data from the previous cycle are connected with changes in the Law On Remuneration of Officials and Employees of State and Local Government Authorities. Between 2019 and 2020 a gradual increase in salary has been introduced, the gross salary has been increased per EUR 1764 and the net annual salary increase per EUR 1203. The salaries for judges are reviewed annually according to the law.

133. Do judges and public prosecutors have additional benefits?

	Judges	Public prosecutors
Reduced taxation	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Special pension	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Housing	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Other financial benefit	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No

Comments

134. If “other financial benefit”, please specify:

. For judges:

According to the Law on Remuneration of Officials and Employees of State and Local Government Authorities, the financial benefits for judges are the following:

If a judge has received a positive statement in the regular assessment of the professional activity of a judge, a service supplement to the monthly salary shall be determined for the judge, except for a judge of the Constitutional Court, in the following amount: 1) after six years worked in the office - 5 per cent of the monthly salary; 2) after 10 years worked in the office - 10 per cent of the monthly salary.

- 1 paid holiday on the first day of school in connection with the commencement of the course of a child's school in classes 1 to 4;
- 3 paid holidays in connection with entering into a marriage;
- by graduating an educational institution for an official (employee) or the child thereof on the day of the release of a paid holiday;
- an allowance shall be paid to an official (employee) in connection with the death of a family member (spouse, child, parent, grandparent, adopter or adopted, brother or sister) or dependent in the amount of a minimum monthly salary of not more than one month;
- benefit up to 50 per cent of the monthly salary once in a calendar year for an official (employee) for each disabled child on a dependent basis up to the age of 18;

- benefit up to 50 per cent of the monthly salary once in a calendar year, leaving the annual paid leave;
- A judge who has been elected to the Council of Justice, the Disciplinary Board of Judges, the Judicial Ethics Commission or the Judicial Qualification Board shall receive a supplement in the amount of three per cent from the monthly salary specified for each session of the relevant institution of self-administration of judges visited by a judge of the district (city) court. The chairperson of the Judicial Council, the chairperson of the Disciplinary Board of Judges, the chairperson of the Judicial Ethics Commission and the chairperson of the Judicial Qualification Board shall receive a supplement in the amount of five per cent from the monthly salary specified for the district (city) court judge for each session of the relevant self-government body visited.
- A judge shall receive a supplement in the amount of three per cent from the monthly salary of the judge specified in the Law stated above, in accordance with the work schedule of the investigating judges or on a holiday day in accordance with the work schedule of the investigating judges, or he or she shall be granted paid rest time on another day of the week;
- Dismissal allowance in the amount of one monthly salary shall be paid to the judge, leaving office due to the health;
- A benefit shall be disbursed in case of the death of a family member (spouse, child, parents, grandparents, adopter or adoptee, brother or sister) or dependant in an amount of not more than one minimum monthly salary.
- Insurance of the health;
- Annual paid vacation for 5 calendar weeks, not including national celebrating days;
- The annual paid vacation is extended by three working days after every five years worked as the judge, but not more than 15 working days in total.

For prosecutors:

For example, in accordance with the provisions of the Law on the Compensation of Officials and Employees of State and Local Governments, a public prosecutor may receive:

- 1) a supplement in the amount of not more than 30 per cent of the monthly salary specified for him or her, if other duties are fulfilled in addition to his or her direct duties;
- 2) a supplement for one day of on-call in accordance with the procedures and in the amount specified by the Prosecutor General, but not more than 3 per cent of the monthly salary of the public prosecutor or a public prosecutor shall be granted paid rest time on another day of the week.

The public prosecutor shall be granted the following paid leave:

- 1) annual paid leave - five calendar weeks, not including holiday holidays;
- 2) after every five years worked by a public prosecutor, the annual paid leave shall be extended by three working days, but not more than 15 working days in total.

Other social guarantees:

- 1) the allowance due to the death of a family member (spouse, child, parent, grandparent, adopter or adopted, brother or sister) or dependant in the amount of a minimum monthly salary;
- 2) a severance allowance in the amount of one monthly salary in connection with the liquidation of the office of the public prosecutor's office or public prosecutor, a reduction in the number of prosecutors or because of the state of health;
- 3) a benefit up to 50 per cent of the monthly salary once in a calendar year, leaving the annual paid leave;
- 4) health insurance;
- 5) a benefit of up to 50 per cent of the monthly salary once in a calendar year for an official (employee) for each disabled child dependent under 18 years of age

[] NAP

=

135. Can judges combine their work with any of the following functions/activities?

With remuneration	Without remuneration
-------------------	----------------------

Teaching	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Research and publication	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Arbitrator	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Consultant	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Cultural function	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Political function	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Mediator	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Other function	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No

Comments - If rules exist in your country (e.g. authorisation needed to perform these activities), please specify. If “other function”, please specify. A judge may, with his or her consent and the permission of the court president, be assigned to a court (also a higher-level court) for a specified period of time in a position other than the position of judge, the Ministry of Justice, the Court Administration, an international court, an international organisation or another institution within the framework of an international project (hereinafter - another institution). The judge shall receive the judge's monthly salary and the service supplement, unless the institution to which the judge has been appointed has taken over the obligation to pay him or her remuneration.

137. Can public prosecutors combine their work with any of the following functions/activities?

	With remuneration	Without remuneration
Teaching	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Research and publication	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Arbitrator	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Consultant	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Cultural function	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Political function	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Mediator	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
Other function	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If rules exist in your country (e.g. authorisation needed to perform these activities), please specify. If “other function”, please specify:

139. Productivity bonuses: do judges receive bonuses based on the fulfilment of quantitative

objectives in relation to the number of resolved cases (e.g. number of cases resolved over a given period of time)?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify the conditions and if possible the amounts:

5.3.2 Body/institution of ethics

138. Is there in your country an institution / body giving opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of judges (e.g. involvement in political life, use of social media by judges, etc.)

Yes

No

Comments

138-1. If yes, who are the members of this institution/body?

Only judges

Judges and other legal professionals

Other, please specify:

Comments

138-2. Are the opinions of this institution / body publicly available?

Yes

No

[] NAP

Comments - Please describe the work of this institution / body, the frequency of opinions, etc. The Judicial Ethics Commission is a collegial authority of the self-governing body of judges whose principal purpose is to provide opinions on the interpretation and infringements of ethical norms, as well as to clarify the ethical norms of judges. Functions of the Judicial Ethics Commission: at the request of the person entitled to initiate disciplinary proceedings, as well as, at the request of the Disciplinary Board or Disciplinary Court, to issue opinions on the interpretation and infringements of ethical standards; on his or her own initiative or at the request of the judges, to clarify and analyse the rules of the Code of Conduct of Judges, as well as to advise judges on matters on ethics; collect and prepare for publication findings and explanations on the interpretation and application of ethical standards; discuss breaches of ethical standards; develop rules of the Code of Conduct for Judges; decide to initiate disciplinary proceedings against a judge in relation to a gross violation of the rules of the Code of Conduct for Judges.

138-3. Is there in your country an institution / body giving opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of prosecutors (e.g. involvement in political life, use of social media by prosecutors, etc.)

Yes

No

Comments

138-4. If yes, who are the members of this institution/body?

Only prosecutors

Prosecutors and other legal professionals

Other, please specify:

Comments

138-5. Are the opinions of this institution / body publicly available?

Yes

No

NAP

Comments - Please describe the work of this institution / body, the frequency of opinions, etc. A public prosecutor may be held liable for disciplinary action for failure to comply with the provisions of the Code of Conduct for prosecutors, but for gross violation of the rules of the Code of Conduct of prosecutors, a public prosecutor may be dismissed. In cases of the application of a disciplinary sanction, information shall be inserted on the internal home page of the Prosecutor's Office, which shall also contain information regarding the nature of the alleged violation. Decisions of the meetings of the Certification Commission regarding violations of the basic principles of the ethics of prosecutors shall be made publicly available. The meetings of the Commission for the Certification of Prosecutors, in which matters of the ethics of prosecutors are examined, shall be open.

5.4. Disciplinary procedures

5.4.1 Authorities responsible for disciplinary procedures and sanctions

140. Who is authorised to initiate disciplinary proceedings against judges (multiple replies possible)?

Court users

Relevant Court or hierarchical superior

High Court / Supreme Court

High Judicial Council

Disciplinary court

Disciplinary body (disciplinary prosecutor, investigator etc.)

Ombudsman

Parliament

Executive power (please specify): Minister of Justice

Other (please specify): The Judicial Ethics Commission, the Presidents of the Regional Court (Appeal Instance) for the judge of the Court of District (city) courts (First Instance).

This is not possible

Comments

141. Who is authorised to initiate disciplinary proceedings against public prosecutors: (multiple replies possible):

Citizens

Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor

Prosecutor General / State public prosecutor

Public prosecutorial Council (High Judicial Council)

Disciplinary court

- Disciplinary body (disciplinary prosecutor, investigator etc.)
- Ombudsman
- Professional body
- Executive power (please specify):
- Other (please specify):
- This is not possible

Comments

142. Which authority has disciplinary power over judges? (multiple replies possible)

- Court
- Higher Court / Supreme Court
- High Judicial Council
- Disciplinary court or body
- Ombudsman
- Parliament
- Executive power (please specify):
- Other (please specify):

Comments Judicial Disciplinary Board (Disciplinary Court may appeal the decision of the Judicial Disciplinary Board)

143. Which authority has disciplinary power over public prosecutors? (multiple replies possible)

- Supreme Court
- Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior
- Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor
- Public prosecutorial Council (High Judicial Council)
- Disciplinary court or body
- Ombudsman
- Professional body
- Executive power (please specify):
- Other (please specify):

Comments

5.4.2 Number of disciplinary procedures and sanctions

144. Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated during the reference year against judges and public prosecutors. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

Judges	Prosecutors
--------	-------------

Total number (1+2+3+4)	12 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	8 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Breach of professional ethics	2 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Professional inadequacy	8 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Criminal offence	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Other	2 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	2 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If “other”, please specify: Other of prosecutors: By 1 July 2020, the public prosecutor had been held to disciplinary action for the commission of an administrative violation, such as non-compliance with road traffic rules.

145. Number of sanctions pronounced during the reference year against judges and public prosecutors:

	Judges	Prosecutors
Total number (total 1 to 10)	12 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	8 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Reprimand	5 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Suspension	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Fine	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
5. Temporary reduction of salary	2 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	2 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
6. Position downgrade	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
7. Transfer to another geographical (court) location	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
8. Resignation	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
9. Other	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

10. Dismissal	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
----------------------	------------------------	------------------------

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference exists between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of sanctions, please indicate the reasons. Section 44 of the Prosecutor's Office Law defines the disciplinary sanctions applicable to the public prosecutor: (1) note; (2) reprimand; (3) reduction of the monthly salary of the public prosecutor to 20 per cent for a period not exceeding six months; (4) demotion; (5) dismissal.

The Other column contains a disciplinary sanction - note (Reproof).

Other for judges- as additional sanction was imposed an extraordinary assessment of the professional work of a judge.

One case was terminate, in 4 cases no sanction was imposed.

E3. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Supreme Court, Prosecutors General Office

6.Lawyers

6.1.Profession of lawyer

6.1.1Status of the profession of lawyers

146. Total number of lawyers practising in your country:

	Total	Male	Female
Number of lawyers	1 370 [] NA	697 [] NA	673 [] NA

Comments

147. Does this figure include "legal advisors" who cannot represent their clients in court (for example, some solicitors or in-house counsellors)?

Yes ()

No (X)

Comments

148. Number of legal advisors who cannot represent their clients in court:

[]

[X] NA

[] NAP

Comments

=

149. Is legal representation in courts exclusively exercised by lawyers in: (multiple replies

possible)

	First instance	Second instance	Highest instance court (Supreme Court)
Civil cases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Dismissal cases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal cases – Defendant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal cases – Victim	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative cases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes in some cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of lawyers' exclusive rights: According Civil procedure law Article 82.1 there are exceptions to the general rules on the right of representation:

Natural persons and legal persons shall conduct cases in the court of first instance and the court of appeal instance themselves or through an advocate:

- 1) in cases which fall within the jurisdiction of the Economic Court;
- 2) in cases arising from the law of obligations, if the amount of the claim exceeds 150,000 euros;
- 3) in matters concerning the protection of a trade secret against unlawful acquisition, use and disclosure (Chapter 30.8).

Also according with Civil procedure law natural persons conduct cases in the court of cassation instance themselves or through a lawyer.

149-0. If other than lawyers may represent a client in court, please specify who:

	First instance	Second instance	Highest instance court (Supreme Court)
Civil society organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Family member	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Self-representation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Trade union	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comments - If "other", please specify. In addition, for the categories selected please specify the types of cases concerned by this/these representation(s): The conditions of representation in civil proceedings are determined by Chapter 12 of the Civil Procedure Law.

(<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/50500-civil-procedure-law>) Basically, natural persons may conduct cases in court personally or through their authorised representatives. Cases of legal persons shall be conducted in court by officials who act within the scope of powers granted them by law, articles of association, or by-laws, or by other representatives authorised by legal persons. There are also exceptions: Natural persons and legal persons shall conduct cases themselves or with the intermediation of an advocate in the court of first instance and the appellate court:

- 1) in cases within the jurisdiction of the Economic Court;
- 2) in cases arising from obligation rights, if the amount of claim exceeds EUR 150 000;
- 3) in cases regarding the protection of a trade secret against illegal acquisition, use, and disclosure (Chapter 30.8).

Natural persons conduct cases in the court of cassation instance themselves or only through an advocate.

It should be highlighted that in most of the cases, a persons is always represented either by a lawyer (or by a lawyer) or by himself, but other forms of representation cannot be excluded, and are already divided by proceedings:

1. In the administrative process, any may represent;
2. In civil proceedings, with the exception of certain categories of cases (those where the representation of the lawyer is mandatory), anyone can also actually;
3. In criminal proceedings, only lawyers (or themselves) defend the accused, others can also be represented by different entities.

Comment for cases which are ticked No - Consequently, the responses should be assessed in the context of a specific process, a specific type of case and an entity to be represented.

In criminal proceedings a victim - natural person of legal age may be represented by any natural person of legal age who is not subject to trusteeship, on the grounds of the authorisation of the victim, which is drawn up as a notarially certified power of attorney. An advocate also may be a representative.

149-1. In addition to the functions of legal representation and legal advice, can a lawyer exercise other activities?

- Notarial activity
- Arbitration / mediation
- Proxy / representation
- Property manager
- Real estate agent
- Other law activities (please specify): Administrator of insolvency

Comments

149-2. What are the statuses for exercising the profession of lawyer?

- Self-employed lawyer
- Staff lawyer
- In-house lawyer

Comments

150. Is the lawyer profession organised through:

- a national bar association
- a regional bar association
- a local bar association

Comments

151. Is there a specific initial training and/or exam to enter the profession of lawyer?

- Yes

No

Comments - Please indicate if there are other specific requirements as regards diplomas or university degrees: In accordance with the amendments to the Law on the Bar of the Republic of Latvia, the procedure has been changed when lawyers with a doctor's degree could become a lawyer without a special examination. The amendments stipulate that doctoral degree holders also take a partial examination to become a lawyer. All other candidates take the full exam to become a lawyer.

152. Is there a mandatory general in-service professional training system for lawyers?

Yes

No

Comments

153. Is the specialisation in some legal fields linked to specific training, levels of qualification, specific diploma or specific authorisations?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: Advocates who work or may work with children, in accordance with the requirements specified in the Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child, need to undergo a special training course for the protection of the rights of the child.

F1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Advocacy Law, Bar association, Civil procedure law, Criminal procedure law, Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child

6.1.2 Practicing the profession

154. Can court users establish easily what the lawyers' fees will be (i.e. a prior information on the foreseeable amount of fees)?

Yes

No

Comments

155. Are lawyers' fees freely negotiated?

Yes

No

Comments The exception is the providers of state-provided legal aid - their remuneration is determined by a regulatory enactment. In turn, during a privately concluded agreement, the client and the lawyer agree on a fee.

156. Do laws or bar standards provide any rules on lawyers' fees (including those freely negotiated)?

Yes, laws provide rules

Yes, standards of the bar association provide rules

No, neither laws nor bar association standards provide rules

Comments

6.1.3 Quality standards and disciplinary procedures

157. Have quality standards been determined for lawyers?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, what are the quality criteria used?

158. If yes, who is responsible for formulating these quality standards:

the bar association

the Parliament

other (please specify): "the initiative comes from the Ministry of Justice collaboration with the bar association"

Comments They are approved by the Parliament (Saeima), but the initiative comes from the Ministry of Justice collaboration with the bar association.

159. Is it possible to file a complaint about:

the performance of lawyers

the amount of fees

Comments - Please specify: A complaint regarding the actions of an advocate may be submitted to the Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates.

160. Which authority is responsible for disciplinary procedures?

a judge

Ministry of Justice

a professional authority

other (please specify):

Comments

161. Disciplinary proceedings initiated against lawyers. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Number of disciplinary proceedings
Total number of disciplinary proceedings initiated (1 + 2 + 3 + 4)	15 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Breach of professional ethics	7 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Professional inadequacy	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3. Criminal offence	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Other	2 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

162. Sanctions pronounced against lawyers.

	Number of sanctions
Total number of sanctions (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)	13 [] NA [] NAP
1. Reprimand	2 [] NA [] NAP
2. Suspension	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Fine	[] NA [X] NAP
5. Other	11 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of sanctions exists, please indicate the reasons. 10 – issue a reproof; 1 – appropriate sanction

7. Court related mediation and other alternative Dispute Resolution

7.1. Court related mediation

7.1.1 Details on court related mediation

163. Does the judicial system provide for court-related mediation procedures?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments Court-annexed mediation is used in civil disputes to be resolved in court proceedings by way of action. Judges have an obligation to offer the parties the option of mediation at different stages of proceedings (after the initiation of the case, in the pre-trial stage, pre-trial hearing, or at any other point until the conclusion of the examining of the case on its merits.) However, parties are free to decide whether to opt for mediation or not.

163-1. In some fields, does the judicial system provide for mandatory mediation with a mediator?

[] Before/instead of going to court

[] Ordered by the court, the judge, the public prosecutor or a public authority in the course of a judicial proceeding

No mandatory mediation

Comments - If there is mandatory mediation, please specify which fields are concerned: Latvian legislation does not stipulate the use of mediation as mandatory in any type of cases. Parties to a case may mutually agree to use mediation as a means of dispute resolution. The only reservation stipulated by the Civil Procedure Law pertains to cases where parties have, following the procedure stipulated in the law, mutually agreed beforehand that in case of a dispute, they would use mediation (e.g. by including such a provision in a contract concluded by and between them). A judge shall refuse to accept a statement of claim if the parties have, in accordance with the procedures laid down in law, agreed on the settlement of a dispute through mediation and evidence that a proposal to settle the dispute through mediation has been rejected has not been submitted, or a mediation agreement has not been entered into, or mediation has been terminated without reaching an agreement in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Mediation Law (Paragraph 31, Section 132 (1) of the Civil Procedure Law). In this case the judge's refusal to accept a statement of claim cannot be construed as an obstacle to submit an equivalent statement of claim to a court after having rectified the deficiencies.

163-2. In some fields, does the legal system provide for mandatory informative sessions with a mediator?

Yes

No

Comments - If there are mandatory informative sessions, please specify which fields are concerned:

164. Please specify, by type of cases, who provides court-related mediation services:

	Private mediator	Public authority (other than the court)	Judge	Public prosecutor
Civil and commercial cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Family cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Administrative cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Labour cases including employment dismissals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Criminal cases	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Consumer cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Mediation for criminal cases is operated as a separate independent system, an integral part of probation. Such mediation processes are carried out by the State Probation Service. It's a voluntary settlement between a victim and a probation client, reached in a process of negotiations where a specially trained State Probation Service person is involved for the management of the settlement process. Settlement is based on the restorative justice approach used in the world to mitigate the effects of crime.

Regarding consumer cases it should be noted that certain out-of-court dispute resolution mechanism is established. Consumer Dispute Resolution Commission deals with disputes between a consumer and a seller or service provider.

Regarding administrative cases it should be noted that it is possible in cases where the institution has the freedom of action in raising a particular issue and can enter into an administrative settlement (agreement) specified in the Administrative Procedure Law.

165. Is there a possibility to receive legal aid for court-related mediation or receive these services free of charge?

Yes

No

NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify (only one or both options):: Project “State co-financed family mediation” was launched in 2017 (in 2019 the project was suspended for lack of public funding but it restarted in January 2020) and provided support for families to solve their disputes affecting children. In each dispute parties could receive up to 5 hours of State paid mediation sessions (for 60 minutes each), provided by certified mediators. Parents, guardians or children’s caretakers could apply even if the proceedings had already been initiated in court and there are a wide range of disputes that could be solved by means of mediation (v.g. parents’ rights of access, children’s maintenance, education, place of residence). In order to ensure the availability of mediation with the conditions of the project in 2020 and also in the following years and to make it easier for the Ministry of Justice to attract the necessary funding for its implementation, an amendment has been made to the Mediation Law. (came into force in 1st January, 2020). The Mediation Law strengthens the permanent function of the Ministry of Justice to implement measures aimed at resolving disputes related to the rights and interests of the child through mediation within the framework of budget.



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166. Number of accredited or registered mediators for court-related mediation:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of mediators	50	4	46
	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Data are available only about certified mediators. According legislation there can be practicing mediators and certified mediators. The former is a natural person selected freely by the parties who have agreed to conduct mediation while the latter, is a mediator who, in accordance with the procedures laid down in the laws and regulations, has acquired mediation and received a certificate which gives him/her the right to be included in the list of mediators.

167. Number of court-related mediations:

	Number of cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation	Number of finished court-related mediations	Number of cases in which there is a settlement agreement
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Civil and commercial cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Family cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Administrative cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Labour cases including employment dismissal cases	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

5. Criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
6. Consumer cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Please indicate the source: Source for question 166 – Council of Certified Mediators (<https://sertificetimediatori.lv/mediatori/>)

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168. Do the following alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods exist in your country?

- Mediation other than court-related mediation
- Arbitration
- Conciliation (if different from mediation)
- Other ADR (please specify):

Comments

G1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Source: Source for question 166 – Council of Certified Mediators (<https://sertificetimediatori.lv/mediatori/>)

8.Enforcement of court decisions

8.1.Execution of decisions in civil matters

8.1.1 Number of enforcement agents, status and mandate

169. Number and type of enforcement agents in your country.

	Total	Male	Female
Total (1+2+3+4)	94 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	28 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	66 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Private professionals under the authority (control) of public authorities	94 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	28 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	66 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Enforcement agents working in a public institution (civil servants paid by state)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Judges	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
4. Other	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If other, please specify their status and competences:

170. What are the requirements to access the profession of enforcement agent (multiple replies possible)?

- diploma
- professional experience
- specific exam
- appointment procedure by the State
- initial training
- other

Comments - If "other", please specify:

171. Are enforcement agents appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

Yes, please indicate the age of retirement: Sworn bailiffs are appointed to the office for life and they may hold this office up to the age of 65 years. The Minister for Justice may extend this time period to 70 years of age upon a recommendation of the Council of Latvian Sworn Bailiffs.

No, please specify the duration of the appointment:

Comments - If yes, are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify: Sworn bailiffs are appointed to the office for life and they may hold this office up to the age of 65 years. The Minister for Justice may extend this time period to 70 years of age upon a recommendation of the Council of Latvian Sworn Bailiffs.

According Law on Bailiffs, the Minister for Justice have the right to impose a disciplinary sanction - a removal from office.

8.1.2 Activities/scope of competence

171-1. Which debtor's information can the enforcement agent access at the beginning of the enforcement procedure?

	Access to information	Direct electronic access to information
Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Date of birth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Civil status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Cohabitant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Employer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Motor vehicle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Movable property	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Immovable property	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Bank account	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Other enforcement proceedings underway	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Insolvency proceedings (bankruptcy, judicial reorganisation, collective debt settlement etc.)	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
Other	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No

Comments - If "other", please specify:

171-2. Can the enforcement agent carry out the following civil enforcement proceedings:

	Option
Seizure of movable tangible properties	(X) Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents () Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents () No [] NAP
Preventive seizure of movable tangible properties	() Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents (X) Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents () No [] NAP
Seizure of immovable properties	(X) Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents () Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents () No [] NAP
Preventive seizure of immovable properties	() Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents (X) Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents () No [] NAP
Seizure from a third party of the debtor claims regarding a sum of money	(X) Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents () Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents () No [] NAP

Seizure of remunerations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizure of motorised vehicles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Eviction measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizures of boats and ships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizure of aircrafts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Seizure of electronic assets (e.g cryptocurrency)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Enforced sale by public tender of seized properties	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Sale of shares	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by enforcement agents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
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Comments

171-3. Apart from the enforcement of court decisions, what are the other activities that can be carried out by enforcement agents?

- Service of judicial and extrajudicial documents
- Debt recovery
- Voluntary or public auctions of moveable or immovable property
- Custody of goods
- Recording and reporting of evidence
- Court hearings service
- Provision of legal advice
- Bankruptcy procedures
- Performing tasks assigned by judges
- Representing parties in courts
- Drawing up private deeds and documents
- Building manager
- Other

Comments

8.1.3 Training and ICT

172-1. Is there a system of mandatory general continuous training for enforcement agents?

- Yes
- No

Comments

172-2. Do you have an e-learning training system established for enforcement agents?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

172-3. Does the content of the continuous training system also include ICT (related to enforcement procedures)?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

172-4. Have an electronic service of documents or electronic notifications been introduced in your country?

Yes

No

Comments

172-5. Does the development of new technologies have an effect on the different stages of the enforcement procedure?

Yes

No

Comments - Please explain: The efficiency of the enforcement of decisions of courts and other institutions is inextricably linked with the prompt and convenient acquisition of information necessary for the enforcement of such decisions. It is important that obtaining information from public registers and other sources is not difficult for sworn bailiffs and the process of receiving such information is fast and does not require additional resources (both financial and human resources). Thus, the introduction of information technologies for obtaining information (direct access to information systems, use of electronic signature) has promoted the efficiency of the work of sworn bailiffs.

Introduction of electronic auctions have helped to achieve purposes of enforcement proceedings – efficiently satisfy creditors' claims from the auction income and return the property into civil turnover, thus encouraging faster growth of the national economy in general – and furthers progress of enforcement procedure as a part of legal proceeding in general. A more convenient form of acquiring property has allowed to achieve several benefits: fair competition between bidders, anonymity, easy to use (even remotely), expand the circle of buyers, greater amount recovered for creditors.

8.1.4 Fees

174. Are enforcement fees easily established and transparent for parties?

Yes

No

Comments

175-1. Are the fees charged in case of successful enforcement proceedings freely negotiated?

Yes

No

Comments

175-2. Who has to pay these fees if the enforcement proceedings are successful?

The debtor

The creditor

Other – please specify

Comments

176. Do laws provide any rules on enforcement fees (including those freely negotiated)?

Yes

() No

Comments

H0. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Source: Article 80 of the Law on Bailiffs provides that the Cabinet determines the rates for the official activities of sworn bailiffs. Accordingly, The Cabinet of Ministers has adopted Regulation No. 451 of 26 Jun 2012 on the Rates of Remuneration for the Professional Activities of Bailiffs (available on <https://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=250209>).

8.1.5 Organisation of profession and efficiency of enforcement services

177. Is there a body entrusted with supervising and monitoring the enforcement agents' activity?

Yes

No

Comments

178. Which authority is responsible for supervising and monitoring enforcement agents?

professional body

judge

Ministry of Justice

public prosecutor

other (please specify): The Commission of Disciplinary Matters. Includes 2 representatives of the Ministry of Justice, 2 representatives elected by the general meeting of the sworn bailiffs, 1 judge of the Supreme Court assigned by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. According to Law on Bailiffs the materials of the disciplinary matter initiated by the Minister of Justice or the Council of Latvian Sworn bailiffs examine the Commission of Disciplinary Matters. It's independent authority.

Comments

181. Is there a specific mechanism for executing court decisions rendered against public authorities, including supervising such execution?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

182. Is there a system for monitoring how the enforcement procedure is conducted by the enforcement agent?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

183. What are the main complaints made by users concerning the enforcement procedure? Please

indicate a maximum of 3.

- no execution at all
- non execution of court decisions against public authorities
- lack of information
- excessive length
- unlawful practices
- insufficient supervision
- excessive cost
- unethical behaviour of enforcement agent
- other (please specify):

Comments

185. Is there a system measuring the length of enforcement procedures:

	Existence of the system
for civil cases	(X) Yes () No
for administrative cases	(X) Yes () No

Comments

186. Regarding a decision on debt collection, please estimate the average timeframe to serve and/or notify the decision to the parties who live in the city where the court sits (one option only):

- between 1 and 5 days
- between 6 and 10 days
- between 11 and 30 days
- more (please specify):
- NA

Comments

187. Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated against enforcement agents. (If a disciplinary proceeding is undertaken because of several reasons, please count the proceedings only once and for the main reason.)

	Number of disciplinary proceedings initiated
Total number of initiated disciplinary proceedings (1+2+3+4)	7 [] NA [] NAP
1. For breach of professional ethics	1 [] NA [] NAP

2. For professional inadequacy	6 [] NA [] NAP
3. For criminal offence	[] NA [X] NAP
4. Other	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

188. Number of sanctions pronounced against enforcement agents:

	Number of sanctions pronounced
Total number of sanctions (1+2+3+4+5)	7 [] NA [] NAP
1. Reprimand	1 [] NA [] NAP
2. Suspension	1 [] NA [] NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Fine	1 [] NA [] NAP
5. Other	4 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. If a significant difference between the number of disciplinary proceedings and the number of sanctions exists, please indicate the reasons: 2 disciplinary matters were terminated, in 2 cases The Commission of Disciplinary Matters decided not to apply a disciplinary sanction and send a decision to the Council of Latvian Sworn Bailiffs in order it will explain to a sworn bailiff the incorrectness of his or her activity.

Reprimand is meant as reproof.

H1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Source: 186 – Civil Procedure Law. According to Civil Procedure Law a true copy of the judgment shall be sent to the participants in the matter who have not attended the court sitting, not later than three days after the judgment has been pronounced. It is considered that the judicial documents have been served on the seventh day from the day of sending, if the document have been sent by mail, or on the third day from the day of sending, if the documents have been sent by electronic mail. Thereby maximal timeframe to notify the decision to the parties is 1 day (if person have attended the court sitting and choose to receive the decision in person upon signature), 6 days (if the decision have been sent by electronic mail (3 days + 3 days) or 10 days (if the decision have been sent by mail (3 days + 7 days)). 187., 188. – Information provided by the Court System Supervision division of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia.

8.2. Execution of decisions in criminal matters

8.2.1 Functioning of execution in criminal matters

189. Which authority is in charge of the enforcement of judgments in criminal matters? (multiple replies possible)

- Judge
- Public prosecutor
- Prison and Probation Services
- Enforcement agent
- Other authority (please specify):

Comments - Please specify his/her functions and duties (e.g. initiative or monitoring functions). Enforcement agents - according to Criminal Procedure law in order to execute a judgment and a decision in the part regarding confiscation of property, and other recoveries of a financial nature, a court send for execution to a competent State institutions or writs of execution to a sworn bailiff.

190. Are the effective recovery rates of fines decided by a criminal court evaluated by studies?

- Yes
- No

Comments

191. If yes, what is the recovery rate?

- 80-100%
- 50-79%
- less than 50%

Comments - Please indicate the source for answering this question: Statistics report prepared by the Latvian Council of Sworn Bailiffs (available on internet home page for Latvian Council of Sworn Bailiffs <http://www.lzti.lv/statistika/>) Number of received enforcement cases (year 2020) – 6964 (includes court decisions in the part regarding confiscation of property, fines and other recoveries of a financial nature). Of which as fulfilled or partly fulfilled enforcement cases – 3674 (52,7%).

9. Notaries

9.1. Profession of notary

9.1.1 Number, status and mandate of notaries

192. Number and status of notaries in your country.

	Total	Male	Female
TOTAL (1+2+3+4)	103 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	13 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	90 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Private professionals (without control from public authorities)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

2. Holders of public offices appointed by the State	103 [] NA [] NAP	13 [] NA [] NAP	90 [] NA [] NAP
3. Civil servants (paid by the State)	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
4. Other	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments - If "Other", please specify the status, or if "holder of a public office appointed by the State", please indicate which ministry is mainly engaged in the appointment procedure:

192-1. What are the access conditions to the profession of notary (multiple replies possible):

- diploma
- professional experience
- specific exam
- appointment procedure by the State
- initial training

other (please specify):Citizenship (citizens of the European Union Member States) Age (persons who have attained the age of twenty five years) Language knowledge (persons who are fluent in the official language); Risk insurance (possible risk of loss as a result of the professional activity shall be compulsorily insured).

Comments

192-2. Are notaries appointed to office for an undetermined period (i.e. "for life" = until the official age of retirement)?

- yes, please indicate the age of retirement:70
- no, please specify the duration of the appointment:

Comments - are there exceptions (e.g. dismissal as a disciplinary sanction)? Please specify: In accordance with paragraph 211 of Notariate Law - the Minister for Justice shall dismiss from office a sworn notary:

- 1) who has not concluded an insurance contract or has not made the regular insurance payment within the time period determined;
- 2) who subsequent to appointment or transfer has not commenced performing the duties of office within the time period determined (Section 13);
- 3) who has assumed a position in a State and local government institution or an undertaking or in private service (Section 15) without permission;
- 4) whom the court has declared to be an insolvent debtor;
- 5) against whom the criminal proceedings regarding commitment of an intentional criminal offence have been terminated for reasons other than exoneration;
- 6) who has been convicted for commitment of an intentional criminal offence regardless of extinguishing or setting aside the criminal record;
- 7) who has committed an intentional criminal offence earlier, but who has been released from serving the sentence;
- 8) who is under the trusteeship;
- 9) who has not passed the sworn notary extraordinary qualification test or repeat regular qualification test;
- 10) who has not passed a qualification test within the time period laid down in this Law.

9.1.2 Activities/scope of competences

194. What kind of activities do notaries perform (multiple options possible):

	Please select one option
Authentication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Certification of signatures	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Legalisation of signatures / Apostille	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Legality control of documents	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Mediation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Taking of oaths	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Non-contentious judicial procedures (e.g. acting as court commissioner in a successions file, performing divorce, division of estate, please specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Act as civil servant (for example performing marriage, please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Other judicial functions (for example, payment orders)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Public auctions	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Other (for example collect taxes, run registers etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, exclusively performed by notaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify. Please indicate any useful clarifications regarding the content of the notaries' exclusive rights or, on the opposite, other bodies that also have competences for the listed activities. Accept money, securities and documents for bailment; accept subject matter of an obligation for bailment; conduct inheritance matters; conduct divorce matters; perform other activities provided for by laws.

194-2. In which areas of law do notaries perform their activities (multiple options possible)?

- Real estate transaction
- Family law
- Succession law
- Company law
- Legality control of gambling activities
- Protection of vulnerable persons
- Other

Comments Other: Legalisation of public document issued in Latvia with apostille; insolvency law; obligations law; issuance of instruments of electronic identification of natural persons.

9.1.3 ICT, organisation of the profession and training

194-3. Do notaries use specialised ICT systems in their activity?

- In their relations with the State (e.g. courts, registries, chambers of commerce, tax authorities)
- In their relations with their clients
- In their relations with other notaries (e.g. videoconferencing, system to exchange documents)

Comments

194-4. Which computerised registries can notaries consult?

- Land registry
- Business registry

Civil status / Population registry

Succession / Family law registry

Any other registry (please specify) the performance of the duties of a sworn notary may also have the right to receive information from other registers, such as the national register of vehicles and their drivers.

None

Comments Succession/Family law registry - is a register of succession maintained only by the notaries themselves.

Any other registry: the performance of the duties of a sworn notary may also have the right to receive information from other registers, such as the national register of vehicles and their drivers.

194-5. Are there registries/ registry infrastructures run by the notaries?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

194-6. In which computerised registries can notaries modify data (either directly or by submitting an online request)?

	Directly modifying	Indirectly modifying by submitting an online request
Land registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Business registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Civil status/ Population registry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Succession / Family law registry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Any other registry (please specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
None	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Any other registry (please specify) – Register of wills; and Register of power of attorneys.

194-7. What ICT tools are used by notaries in their relations with clients?

Videoconferencing (e.g. digital advice)

Digital act

Digital identification

Digital archiving

Other, please specify

None

Comments

194-8. Who is responsible to run the digital archives?

Notariat / Professional body

Other public authority

Another entity (please specify)

Comments

195. Is there an authority entrusted with supervising and monitoring the notaries' work?

Yes

No

Comments

196. If yes, which authority is responsible for supervising and monitoring notaries (multiple options possible)?

professional body

court

Ministry of Justice

public prosecutor

other (please specify):

Comments

196-1. Is there a system of general continuous training for all notaries?

Yes

No

Comments

196-2. Do notaries have training on:

	Yes	No
European law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Law of another Member State (cross-border training programmes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments - If yes, please indicate the types (e.g. traditional courses, e-learning, webinar) and the major topics of the training activities:

I1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Ministry of Justice

10. Court interpreters

10.1. Details on profession of court interpreter

10.1.1 Status of court interpreters

197. Is the title of court interpreters protected?

Yes

No

Comments

198. Is the function of court interpreters regulated by legal norms?

Yes

No

Comments

199. Number of registered court interpreters:

[]

NA

NAP

Comments

200. Are there binding provisions regarding the quality of court interpretation within judicial proceedings?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify (e.g. having passed a specific exam):

201. Are the courts responsible for selecting court interpreters?

Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment for a specific term of office

Yes, for recruitment and/or appointment on an ad hoc basis, according to the specific needs of given proceedings

No, please specify which authority selects court interpreters Administration of the Supreme Court

Comments The reply Yes is for the court interpreters of first and second instance courts. The reply No is for the Supreme Court. Interpreters are staff members of the Administration.

J1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Court administration, Supreme Court

11. Judicial experts

11.1. Profession of judicial expert

11.1.1 Status of judicial experts

202. In your system, what types of judicial experts can participate in judicial procedures (multiple replies possible):

- Experts designated by the parties in support of their arguments but bound by a duty of independence and impartiality to the court
- Experts appointed by the court or other authority independent of the parties
- Other system of judicial expertise, please specify

Comments - Please specify who is proposing and appointing experts in an individual case.

202-1. Are there lists or any other form of official registration for judicial experts?

- Yes
- No

Comments

202-1-1. If yes, at which level is the list established (multiple replies possible):

- national
- administrative district or federal entity
- judicial district
- other

Comments - Please, indicate any other comment regarding these lists or databases of experts, if they do exist (e.g. does the expert take an oath? How are his/her skills evaluated? By whom?): Law on Forensic Experts states that there is the Register of Forensic Experts (<https://eksperti.ta.gov.lv/en>), which is a public register containing information regarding all forensic experts operating in the State. The Register is established and maintained by the Court Administration. The certification examination specified for candidates and the recertification examination specified for forensic experts given by the Commission for Certification of Forensic Experts. The Commission examines the knowledge of a candidate in the specialty chosen, as well as evaluate the level of knowledge of the regulatory enactments regulating the activities of a forensic expert, his or her skill to draw up an opinion of a forensic expert. After examination the Commission submits the evaluation of candidates knowledge and the protocol of the examination to the Council of Forensic Experts, which takes a decision regarding issuance of a forensic expert certificate (validity period 5 years) considering the evaluation of Commission, evaluation of the reviewers of candidates "Expert opinion". After receiving forensic expert certificate a person is registered in the Register of Forensic Experts. Professional activity of forensic experts is regulated by the Law on Forensic Experts and by the Cabinet regulations, which is referable only to certified forensic experts.

202-1-2. Are these lists publicly available?

- Yes, available on the internet
- Yes
- No

Comments <https://eksperti.ta.gov.lv/en>

202-2. Which authority is competent for the registration of judicial experts?

- Ministry of justice

Courts

Administrative body

Independent body (association of judicial experts)

Other

Comments - Please also specify the registration criteria: The Register of Forensic Experts contains information regarding only forensic experts certified in accordance with the procedures specified in the Law. The Council of Forensic Experts suspended the operation of a forensic expert certificate for a time period which does not exceed two years, provided that: 1) the institution in which the State forensic expert is working, or the private forensic expert has not submitted a methodology description in the relevant speciality to the Council of Forensic Experts; 2) the forensic expert has informed the Council of Forensic Experts regarding long-term absence (a parental leave, long-term disease). The Council of Forensic Experts has the right to suspend the operation of a forensic expert certificate for a time period which does not exceed two years, if: 1) the forensic expert is a person prosecuted or a suspect in criminal proceedings regarding committing of an intentional criminal offence; 2) a disciplinary matter has been initiated against the forensic expert; 3) the forensic expert has not fulfilled that laid down in Section 14, Paragraph two, Clause 3 of this Law. The Council of Forensic Experts shall terminate the operation of a forensic expert certificate, if: 1) forensic expert: - is a person prosecuted or a suspect in a criminal case regarding the committal of an intentional criminal offence; - has been sentenced for committing an intentional criminal offence (regardless of whether or not the conviction is extinguished or set aside); - has been convicted for committing an intentional criminal offence, but has been released from serving the sentence due to a limitation period, amnesty or clemency; - is person against whom criminal proceedings regarding an intentional criminal offence have been terminated due to a limitation period or amnesty; - has been held criminally liable, but the criminal proceedings against whom have been terminated for reasons other than exoneration; - is person under trusteeship. 2)the term of validity of the relevant certificate of the medical practitioner has expired for the forensic expert in the speciality of forensic-medicine expert and speciality of forensic psychiatry expert; 3)the term of suspension of a forensic expert certificate has exceeded two years; 4)the forensic expert has submitted a submission for termination of operation of the certificate; 5)a disciplinary sanction has been imposed repeatedly on a forensic expert for whom a disciplinary sanction has not been extinguished; 6)a disciplinary sanction has been imposed on a forensic expert - withdrawal of the rights of the forensic expert. The time period for which the operation of a forensic expert certificate is suspended is included in the time period of validity of the forensic expert certificate.

202-3. Is the registration of judicial experts limited in time?

Yes, for how longRegistration shall be valid until the expert's certificate is active.

No

Comments

202-4. Can an expert who is not on the list or not registered be appointed in a case?

Yes

No

Comment - If yes, please specify in which cases:

203. Is the title of judicial experts protected?

Yes

No

Comments - If appropriate, please explain the meaning of this protection:

203-1. Does the judicial expert have an obligation of training?

Obligation of training

Initial training	(X) Yes () No
Continuous training	(X) Yes () No

Comments

203-2. If yes, does this training concern:

- judicial proceedings
- the profession of expert
- other

Comments

204. Is the function of judicial experts regulated by legal norms?

- Yes
- No

Comments

204-1. On the occasion of a task entrusted to him/her, does the judicial expert have to report any potential conflicts of interest?

- Yes
- No

Comments - If yes, please specify:

205. Number of accredited or registered judicial experts:

	Total	Male	Female
Number of experts	316 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	137 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	179 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

206-1. Number of cases where expert opinion was ordered by a judge or requested by the parties

	Number of cases
Total (1+2+3+4)	397 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1.Civil and commercial litigious cases	212 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.Administrative cases	11 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3.Criminal cases	113 [] NA [] NAP
4.Other cases	61 [] NA [] NAP

Comments Other cases - 43 cases concerning the application of medical coercive measures and procedural coercive measures, 15 penalty enforcement cases, 3 Administrative infringement cases

205-1. Who defines the amount of the expert remuneration?

	In civil/administrative cases	In criminal cases
Defined by law/by-law or a special regulation	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Defined by the court/judge	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Defined by Ministry of Justice or another ministry (setting a tariff for example)	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Salary of public official (in case of forensic or another specialist – who is public employee)	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Freely agreed between expert and the parties	(X) Yes () No [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Other	() Yes (X) No [] NAP	() Yes (X) No [] NAP

Comments - If other, please specify:

206. Are there binding provisions for judicial experts regarding:

	Yes	No
Deadlines to provide expertise	(X)	()
Quality of expertise	(X)	()
Other	()	(X)

[] NAP

Comments - If yes, please specify, and provide details in case there are possible sanctions:

207-1. Does the judge or another body control the progress of the expertise?

() Yes

(X) No

If yes, please specify:

207-2. Are judicial experts' associations involved in:

- Selection processes
- Initial or continuous training
- Disciplinary procedures
- NAP

Comments

K1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: 1)Law of Forensic Experts
2)Criminal Procedure Law
3)Civil Procedure Law
4)Administrative Procedure Law
5)Register of forensic experts (<https://eksperti.ta.gov.lv/en>)

12.Reforms in judiciary

12.1.Foreseen reforms

12.1.1Reforms

208. Can you provide information on the current debate in your country regarding the functioning of justice? Are there undergoing or foreseen reforms? If possible, please observe the following categories:

208-1. (Comprehensive) reform plans

- Yes (planned)
- Yes (adopted)
- Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
- No
- NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: On 1 July 2020, amendments to the Law on Judicial Power came into force, providing for the establishment of the Economic Court, which is competent for both certain types of civil and criminal cases. Accordingly, the Court is competent for specific commercial disputes and criminal cases, which cause significant damage to the business environment and economic development. The Economic Court started its action on 31 March 2021. All indicated information below also applies to the overall information regarding the comprehensive reform plans.

208-2. Budget

- Yes (planned)
- Yes (adopted)
- Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Activities to be identified as priorities in the 2022-2024 budgets.

There are five priorities regarding the budgets of district (city) and regional courts. The first is improvement of video conferencing and computer hardware infrastructure, increase of data flow speed; the second is the provision of leave allowance for judges; third – expansion of training programs and opportunities for professional improvement of judges, involvement of a psychologist in the process of selection of candidates for the position of a judge; fourth – implementation of activities related to the gradual implementation and improvement of the E-case reform; and fifth – full provision of services provided to courts (premises, postal services, security).

208-3. Courts and public prosecution services (e.g. powers and organisation, structural changes - e.g. reduction of the number of courts (geographic locations), competences of the courts, management and working methods, information technologies, backlogs and efficiency, court fees, renovations and construction of new buildings)

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Planned - educational institution.

The reform of the in-service training system for judges and prosecutors by establishing a single training centre – Judicial Training Centre. Maintaining the high qualification of judges, prosecutors and investigators and its continuous development is crucial for the quality investigation, preparation and trial of the case, as the public perceives the process as a whole rather than distinguishes different stages performed by different actors of the legal system. It is planned to implement the reform of the in-service training system for judges and prosecutors by the end of 2024. It will be implemented by the Court Administration in cooperation with the Prosecutor General's Office, the Supreme Court and the Ministry of the Interior, and the implementation will be monitored by the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Judicial Council.

Digital Court Solutions. Examination of “E-case” system online The implementation of the “E-case” program will continue in 2021, and the 1st phase, specifically on the improvement of investigation and judicial processes, is planned to be completed by end in the fourth quarter of 2021. The full implementation of the E-case is expected by 2023. Within the framework of 1st phase of the draft E-case programme, with the entry into force of the Administrative Liability Law on 1 July 2020, the work on administrative offence cases takes place in the new technological platform of the Court Information System developed within the draft E-case project "Informative Development of Courts". In 2020, as part of the pilot project, 11 courtrooms are equipped with screens for the examination of cases online (“E-cases”). Based on the results of the pilot project, it is planned to equip all courtrooms in Latvia by the end of 2021. Furthermore, digital solutions are being sought, with the development of scanning software and technical equipment within the e-file, such as the purchase of scanners and document cameras, for the conversion of paper documents into digital form. The Saeima of the Republic of Latvia (parliament) is considering the amendments of the Administrative Procedure Law (Reg. No. 887/Lp13), Civil Procedural Law and Criminal Procedural Law which, among other things, envisages to make the regulation applicable to electronic court proceedings. The aim is to move from a paper case to an electronic case. All case files, from the application to the decision, will be stored electronically and will be available to the participants in the proceedings remotely.

In order to strengthen the sustainability of the e-case, a unified national vision of e-case, to define an e-case legal framework and justification for data processing within the framework of the e-case sharing solutions platform, as well as to ensure coordinated monitoring and operation of the e-case, the draft law “E-case Sharing Solutions Platform Law” has been developed. The main objective of this bill is to provide officials who carry out civil proceedings, criminal proceedings, administrative infringement proceedings, administrative proceedings or enforcement proceedings, legal basis for processing personal data in an e-case sharing solution platform, as well as to establish legal prerequisites for the exchange of data between States information systems which are connected in an e-case sharing solution platform.

Implemented:

On 1 July 2020, amendments to the Law on Judicial Power came into force, providing for the establishment of the Economic Court, which

is competent for both certain types of civil and criminal cases. Accordingly, the Court is competent for specific commercial disputes and criminal cases concerning particularly serious and serious crimes, which cause significant damage to the business environment and economic development. The Economic Court started its action on 31 March 2021.

208-4. Access to justice and legal aid

- Yes (planned)
 Yes (adopted)
 Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
 No
 NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Digital Court Solutions. Examination of “E-case” system online.

The e-case program envisages the introduction of electronic case investigation, court proceedings and the execution of sentences process, providing the parties to the case and other persons involved in the case with all information about the case electronically available in one place - from pre-trial proceedings to enforcement.

The implementation of the “E-case” program will continue in 2021, and the 1st phase, specifically on the improvement of investigation and judicial processes, is planned to be completed by end in the fourth quarter of 2021. The full implementation of the E-case is expected by 2023. Within the framework of 1st phase of the draft E-case programme, with the entry into force of the Administrative Liability Law on 1 July 2020, the work on administrative offence cases takes place in the new technological platform of the Court Information System developed within the draft E-case project "Informative Development of Courts". Planned:

- Implementation of E-case, Stage 2 – Accession of investigative authorities to a unified investigation and court proceedings – 2021 –2024;
- Implementation of E-case, Stage 3 – unified electronic process of investigation, court proceedings and enforcement of penalties, as well as cross-border cooperation within the framework of the European Union for data exchange in criminal proceedings – 2024 –2028.

208-5. High Judicial Council

- Yes (planned)
 Yes (adopted)
 Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
 No
 NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: The extension of the role of the Judicial council in the context of establishing a training center – Judicial Training Centre.

208-6. Legal professionals (judges, public prosecutors, lawyers, notaries, enforcement agents, etc.): organisation, education and training, etc.

- Yes (planned)
 Yes (adopted)
 Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
 No
 NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: The reform of the in-service training system for judges and prosecutors by establishing a single training center – Judicial Training Centre. It is planned to implement the reform of the in-service training system for judges and prosecutors by the end of 2024. It will be implemented by the Court Administration in cooperation with the Prosecutor General's Office, the Supreme Court and the Ministry of the Interior, and the implementation will be monitored by the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Judicial Council.

In 2020, the Prosecutor's Office developed a training programme on the provision of the amount of evidence necessary for the investigation of money laundering, including the criminal policy and the confiscation of proceeds and the legal framework and application of the special confiscation of property in practice. An internal audit on the utility of the training programmes for prosecutors was carried out in 2021, as well as work on the development of a vocational training system for prosecutors has been launched. In 2021, in comparison with previous years, it has been determined that the Prosecutor General may exempt an applicant for the position of a prosecutor who has passed the State Unified Professional Qualification Examination of Lawyers from taking the general and legal knowledge test.

208-7. Gender balance

- Yes (planned)
 Yes (adopted)
 Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
 No
 NA

Comments - If yes, please specify:

208-8. Reforms regarding civil, criminal and administrative laws, international conventions and cooperation activities

- Yes (planned)
 Yes (adopted)
 Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
 No
 NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Reform regarding regulation of joint ownership rights.

1. Yes (planned) – reforms are just at the stage of a proposal, public discussion, drafting a concrete official document (strategy, law etc) or similar:

Taking into account the conclusions of the Supreme Court of Latvia on the need to upgrade the regulation of joint ownership rights, and also news about possible unfair behaviour in connection with the division of joint property in the media, a draft law was prepared, which provides for amendments to the Civil Law regarding division of joint property, and which is currently being considered by the Saeima (Parliament of the Republic of Latvia). The draft law determines a restriction to request division of the joint property for a certain period of time after the acquisition of the deemed shares in immovable property with residential premises in it, unless there is some important reason for it. It is also planned to determine in certain cases the right of the majority of joint owners to request the disposal of the presumed shares of the joint owner, as well as new ways of how to divide the joint property.

Reviewing regulation of the bill of exchange.

1. Yes (planned) – reforms are just at the stage of a proposal, public discussion, drafting a concrete official document (strategy, law etc.) or similar:

Taking into account the news in the media regarding the cases where a promissory note had been used for probably illegal activities to defraud an immobile property and money from individuals the current legislation regulating the bill of exchange is being reviewed - we are considering moving from issuing a promissory note as a private document to the public document. Reform regarding Inheritance Law.

1. Yes (planned) - reforms are just at the stage of a proposal, public discussion, drafting a concrete official document (strategy, law etc.) or similar:

On the basis of the study of the Ministry of Justice of Latvia "Problems of the Legal Regulation of the Inheritance Law Part of the Civil Law and the Necessity of Their Modernization" amendments to the inheritance Law (which is the second of four parts of the Civil law of Latvia) have been promulgated. But the forementioned draft law needs to be considered by the government first and then passed by the legislator (Saeima - Parliament of the Republic of Latvia) to come in to the force.

The aim of the amendments is to improve the system of acceptance of inheritance, to improve regulation of the liability of heirs, to improve the regulation regarding the procedure for satisfaction of creditors claims, to improve the rules on the guardianship of the estate,

to improve the framework for inheritance division, as well as making other needed improvements.

Implemented:

The reform of juvenile criminal liability system.

208-9. Enforcement of court decisions and in particular regarding decisions against public authorities

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify:

208-10. Mediation and other Alternative Dispute Resolution

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: There is a debate on the need to strengthen the enforcability of mediated agreements in order to promote the wider use of mediation.

208-11. Fight against crime

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify:

208-12. Prison system

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Planned: reforms are planned, for example, about the regime of those sentenced to life, about the sentence serving regime levels in a partly-closed prison, enforcement of communication restrictions imposed by the court on an arrested persons, etc. Reforms are at the discussion stage.

208-13. Child friendly justice

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: (Planned) The Saeima of the Republic of Latvia (parliament) is considering the amendments of the Administrative Procedure Law (Reg. No. 887/Lp13), which, among other things, envisages the supplementing Section 21 of the Administrative Procedure Law with a special guardian's duty to hear the minor, inform the court and protect interests in the particular administrative case.

Project "Support for the Implementation of Barnahus in Latvia". The aim of the project is to introduce a unified one-stop support institution in Latvia for children affected by violence. The orphanage (Barnahus) is a world-renowned model of inter-institutional cooperation, with a special emphasis on the best interests of the child victim and the most lenient approach in case of intervention by law enforcement agencies. The project must be implemented by the end of March 2024. The launched project includes not only the creation of premises and technical equipment, but also a new approach and a greater desire to cooperate in the interests of the child and the investigation. (Implemented) The amendments in the Criminal Law envisages the implementation of the reform of juvenile criminal liability - applying criminal liability to a juvenile only in certain cases. In this way, the reduction of the number of juvenile offenders will be achieved, as well as such reform will promote more successful integration of young offenders into the society, as well as in the labor market. The entry into force of the amendments is scheduled for January 1, 2022.

208-14. Domestic violence

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Implemented:

Implementation has just started (in July 2021) - <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/322214-grozijumi-civilprocesa-likuma>. A new provisional remade has been introduced in Civil procedural law with amendments which came into force in 4/20/2021. The new regulation allows court to oblige the abusive person to take a social rehabilitation course to reduce the violent behavior.

208-15. New information and communication technologies

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: The Saeima of the Republic of Latvia (parliament) is considering the amendments of the Administrative Procedure Law (Reg. No. 887/Lp13), Civil Procedural Law and Criminal Procedural Law which, among other things, envisages to make the regulation applicable to electronic court proceedings. The aim is to move from a paper case to an electronic case. All case files, from the application to the decision, will be stored electronically and will be available to the participants in the proceedings remotely.

208-16. Other

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Implementation has just started - <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/322214-grozijumi-civilprocesa-likuma>. As it was mentioned before regarding the provisional measures – In 4/20/2021 amendments to the Civil Procedure Law came into force, which introduced a general regulation of provisional measures applicable in all civil disputes - Chapter 19 of Civil procedure law (Please see the answer to question 87.).