

Evaluation of the judicial systems 2024 (data 2022)



Latvia

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Reference data 2022 (01/01/2022 - 31/12/2022)

Start/end date of the data collection campaign : 15/03/2023 - 01/10/2023

Objective :

The CEPEJ decided, at its 39th plenary meeting, to launch the ninth evaluation cycle 2024, focused on 2022 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 46 member states of the Council of Europe as well as three observer states (Israel, Morocco and Kazakhstan).

The present questionnaire was developed 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, in service of the European citizens.

For better understanding of the questions it is necessary to consult the Explanatory note that gives definitions and explanations on the CEPEJ evaluation questionnaire and the methodology needed for replying, You can download the Explanatory note as a whole document on the CEPEJ website. In addition to the Explanatory note, there is also the User manual that is a technical document to help you navigate through this application for data collection.

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.

Instruction :

Explanatory note: <https://rm.coe.int/explanatory-note-2024-cycle-cepej-2023-2-en/1680aae30a>

Word version of the questionnaire - <https://rm.coe.int/evaluation-scheme-2024-cycle-cepej-2022-9rev1-en-30-march-2023/1680aae309>

CEPEJ COLLECT - User manual – you can download under Documentation tab

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)

[1 883 008]

Comments Population at the beginning of the year, 01.01.2023

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

[20 709]

Comments Starting from 2020, an increase in GDP per capita is observed in Latvia, which is influenced by two factors: a decrease in the population and a moderate increase in GDP.

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

[16 476]

[] NA

Comments The average wage in Latvia continues to rise for several years in a row. In 2022, the increase in average wages was influenced by several factors: the lifting of the restrictions of COVID-19, which boosted economic activity, a low unemployment rate, which created the conditions for a small increase in wages.

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

[]

Allow decimals : 5

[X] NAP

Comments

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

Sources: Data source: Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, statistical data base www.data.stat.gov.lv. Tables: DSV010 "Average monthly and median wages and salaries (euro; changes, compared to previous period (per cent)) 1990 - 2022", IRS010. "Population at the beginning of year, population change and key vital statistics 1920 - 2023" and IKP010. "Total gross domestic product, per capita and per person employed 1995 - 2022".

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, 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)	82 579 935 [] NA [] NAP	81 225 117 [] NA [] NAP
1. Annual public budget allocated to (gross) salaries	61 534 226 [] NA [] NAP	60 805 206 [] NA [] NAP

2. Annual public budget allocated to computerisation (2.1 + 2.2)	4 285 789 [] NA [] NAP	4 187 673 [] NA [] NAP
2.1 Investments in computerisation	2 469 393 [] NA [] NAP	2 458 161 [] NA [] NAP
2.2 Maintenance of the IT equipment of courts	1 816 396 [] NA [] NAP	1 729 912 [] NA [] NAP
3. Annual public budget allocated to justice expenses (expertise, interpretation, etc.)	2 739 746 [] NA [] NAP	2 476 792 [] NA [] NAP
4. Annual public budget allocated to court buildings (maintenance, operating costs)	12 762 181 [] NA [] NAP	12 575 332 [] NA [] NAP
5. Annual public budget allocated to investments in new (court) buildings	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
6. Annual public budget allocated to training	146 872 [] NA [] NAP	139 122 [] NA [] NAP
7. Other (please specify)	1 111 121 [] NA [] NAP	1 040 992 [] 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: Other on data about district (city) and regional courts: administrative expenses €139 694; benefit for relatives due to the death of an employee € 4543; vehicle rental, maintenance and fuel; tax payments; transfer to the Supreme Court for the salary of two judges and assistant judges in connection with the temporary transfer from the District Court to the Supreme Court; inventory, furniture, archive systems; judges' robes and insignia of office).

Comments (district (city) courts and regional courts) on differences between approved annual budget budget allocated:

2.1 Investments in computerisation: – € 4,617 less was used for supplementing the IT infrastructure, because the prices were lower than planned;

2.2 Maintenance of the IT equipment of courts - for increasing the data transmission network speed and maintaining the IT infrastructure € 84,378 less than planned was actually required; 3. Annual public budget allocated to justice expenses (expertise, interpretation, etc.) - actual expenses for sending court documents to process participants and reimbursement of travel expenses for witnesses, interpreters, victims by € 262,471 less than planned; 4. Annual public budget allocated to court buildings (maintenance, operating costs) - expenditure on energy resources is € 181,867 less than planned; 6. Annual public budget allocated to training - expenses for training are € 750 less than planned, as well as the 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 no. 131-0 and 7. Other (please specify) - administrative expenses and inventory purchase expenses are € 44,609 less than planned.

Comments about differences with the previous reporting period (year 2020) (data about district (city) regional courts)

1. Annual public budget allocated to (gross) salaries € 5.5 million was used for the compensation of judges and court employees. more, because additional funding was granted for increasing monthly salaries;

2. Annual public budget allocated to computerisation (2.1 + 2.2) used for € 1.6 million more, because additional funding was allocated for the purchase of video conferences and the digitization of courts in connection with the implementation of E-case; 3. Annual public budget allocated to justice expenses (expertise, interpretation, etc.) – € 0.75 million was used for procedural expenses, more related to price increases for postal services, increases in the volume and prices of translations and increases in fuel prices; 4. Annual public budget allocated to court buildings (maintenance, operating costs) – used for € 0.95 million more related to the increase in energy resource prices; 6. Annual public budget allocated to training - used for € 0.04 million more, because the amount of face-to-face training has increased in connection with the mitigation of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic; 7. Other (please specify) – for € 0.1 million increased expenses related to the increase in vehicle rental expenses and fuel prices.

The changes in the budget of the Supreme Court are related to the impact of Covid-19 on the distribution of priorities and necessary expenses. The Covid-19 required an operational increase in investment in the provision of IT resources and their maintenance. On the other hand, the annual public budget allocated to training has increased, which is related to the lifting of restrictions on foreign visits, participation in conferences, and experience exchange visits.

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 type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts and legal aid together	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Total annual public budget allocated to all courts, public prosecution services and legal aid together	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input 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

Comments - 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 installments.

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 the Administrative Procedure Law (article 124). The amount of court fees is calculated taking into account the value of the claim and the type of the claim (claim in divorce cases, application in special procedural cases, claims, which do not have a property nature or cannot be assessed etc.).

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 €):

[14 476 297]

[] 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)	1 893 823 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
12.1 for cases brought to court (court fees and/or legal representation)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP
12.2 for cases not brought to court (legal advice, ADR and other legal services)	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP

Comments State budget for state ensured legal aid is allocated taking into account the amount of the spent budget of the previous year. The budget reduction of previous years is related to the fact that there was less need for legal assistance due to non-active criminal proceedings, postponed legal proceedings, including the Covid 19 protection measures established in the previous two years.

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

	TOTAL	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
TOTAL - Annual implemented public budget allocated to legal aid (12-1.1 + 12-1.2)	1 475 828 [] NA [] NAP	1 354 206 [] NA [] NAP	121 622 [] 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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012-3. Do legal aid budgets indicated in Q12 and Q12-1 include:

	Amount calculated/estimated included
Coverage of court fees	() Yes (X) No () NAP (Legal aid does not include coverage of court fees)
Exemption from court fees	() Yes (X) No () NAP (Legal aid does not include exemption from court fees)

Comments

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)	42 389 284 [] NA [] NAP	36 664 603 [] NA [] NAP
13.1. Annual public budget allocated to training of public prosecution services	36 812 [] NA [] NAP	36 812 [] NA [] NAP

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: The allocated budget has increased due to the fact that we were implementing the EC co-financed project BALTICS that conducted trainings for prosecutors in the field of financial and economic crime investigation. The project was financed from the funds of the Prosecutor's Office (budget was 28 930 EUR).

Decrease observed in the spending of budget in the training activities was due to the fact that several activities implemented in the Prosecution Office were financed by the European Commissions project (in accordance with the Explanatory note, EU fundings are not taken into consideration in Q13). Additionally, during the training period of 2022 many activities for prosecutors were financed by the

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

Sources: Data source: Legal Aid Administration (<https://www.jpa.gov.lv/en>), Court administration, Supreme court, The Prosecutor 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 €	378 032 011 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	352 178 056 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> 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: The increase is explained by:

1. Modernization of judicial institutions and development of e-services, strengthening of the human resource capacity and material and technical base of judicial institutions, raising the monthly salaries of court employees;
2. Protection of employees of the State Probation Service, whose work is associated with special risks, and an increase in compensation for employees;
3. Publication of the data of the State Cadastre of Real Estate, the State Register of Addresses, High-Detailed Topographical Information and Information Systems of Difficult Territories in the form of open data;
4. Ensuring the operation of the Constitutional Protection Office (classified information);
5. Repairs and improvements of the infrastructure of prisons, provision of an increase in wages of medical personnel of prisons.

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

	Included
Courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Legal aid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Public prosecution services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

015-3. Other budgetary elements

	Included
Prison system	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Probation services	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
High Judicial Council	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
High Prosecutorial Council	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Constitutional court	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Judicial management body	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Service for legal representation of the State	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Enforcement services	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Notariat	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Forensic services	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Judicial protection of juveniles	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Functioning of the Ministry of Justice	(X) Yes () No [] NAP
Refugees and asylum seekers services	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Immigration Service	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Some police services (e.g. : transfer, investigation, prisoners' security)	() Yes (X) No [] NAP
Other	() Yes (X) No [] NAP

If "Other", please specify:

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

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	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP
Legal advice, ADR and other legal services	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP	(X) Yes () No [] NA [] NAP

016-1. Please briefly describe the organisation of the legal aid system in your country.

- In accordance with the State Ensured Legal Aid Law and Regulations No 869 "Legal Aid Administration Regulation" adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers on 15 November 2005, the Legal Aid Administration manages the funds for the state ensured legal aid.

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

(X) Yes

() No

[] NAP

If yes, please specify:

019. 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

020. 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 type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
In criminal 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
In other than criminal 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

Comments - Please specify when appropriate: In 2022 the Legal Aid Administration received 1035 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 754 cases, legal aid was ensured in 79 asylum and return cases. According to the data available to the Legal Aid Administration legal aid was provided in approximately 6066 criminal proceedings.

020-0. Please indicate the number of recipients of legal aid:

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

Comments - Please specify when appropriate:

020-0-1. Are there statistical data disaggregated by gender in respect of recipients of legal aid?

- Yes
 No

020-0-2. If yes, please provide details on distribution by gender of recipients of legal aid:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of recipients of legal aid	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

020-0-3. Is it possible to divide the number of recipients of legal aid per different categories of cases?

Yes

No

Comment: If yes, please specify for which categories of cases: Legal Aid Administration can divide the received applications by categories of cases but cannot divide them separately by recipients.

020-0-4. Are there situations where legal aid is automatically granted depending on categories of cases?

Yes

No

Comment: If yes, please specify: According to the Criminal procedure law if the rights of a minor and the protection of the interests thereof are encumbered or otherwise not ensured the person directing the proceedings shall take a decision on retaining of an advocate as the representative of a minor victim. Provision of legal assistance to a minor victim and the representative of a minor victim is mandatory in criminal proceedings regarding a criminal offence related to violence committed by a person, upon whom the minor victim is financially or otherwise dependent, or regarding a criminal offence against morals or sexual inviolability.

The participation of a defence counsel is mandatory in criminal proceedings: if a minor or person with diminished mental capacity has the right to defence; regarding the determination of compulsory measures of a medical nature; if such proceedings are continued in connection with an application regarding the exoneration of a deceased person; if the right to defence is held by a person who is not able to completely use his or her procedural rights due to a mental or other health impairment; if the right to defence is held by an illiterate person or a person with a level of education so low that such person may not completely use his or her procedural rights.

During a trial the participation of a defence counsel is mandatory, if a case is examined while the accused is absent (in absentia) or without the participation of the accused, as well as if the trial is taking place under the proceedings regarding the application of coercive measures on a legal person, whereby such proceedings are isolated in separate records, and the representative of the legal person does not participate in the trial.

In addition, accordance with Immigration and Asylum laws, legal aid is provided as soon as legal aid is requested.

020-0-5. How many of the recipients of legal aid are alleged victims of domestic violence?

	Total	Males	Females
Number of recipients of legal aid who are alleged victims of domestic violence	60 <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

Comments This number is the number of applications received. Legal Aid Administration informs, that one recipient may have several cases.

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 decision on 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: Application on legal aid in a Constitutional Court process, in civil matters and certain types of administrative cases shall be reviewed and decision on granting or refusal to grant legal aid shall be adopted by the Administration within 21 days, but in matters affecting children's rights - within 14 days from the date of receipt of an application for legal aid, as well as in partial legal aid cases, the Legal Aid Administration takes a decision within one month. 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 (process takes maximum 3 days, the estimated term in criminal cases is fixed in the Criminal Procedure Law) or in urgent in conformity with the schedule of the advocates on duty compiled by the elder of the sworn advocates.

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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: According to Criminal procedure Law Section 85 The following have the right to exemption from payment for the assistance of a defence counsel, which in such case shall be covered from State resources:

- 1) a person whose financial situation excludes the possibility to ensure payment from his or her own resources for the assistance of a defence counsel.
- 2) a person whose representative must mandatory participate in criminal proceedings in accordance with Section 83, Paragraph one of this Law.

A decision on payment from State resources of the assistance of a defence counsel shall be taken by an investigating judge in pre-trial proceedings, or by the court in trial. If a minor victim or his or her representative has not entered into an agreement with an advocate regarding provision of legal assistance, in the case when provision of legal assistance to a minor victim is mandatory, in that case payment to the advocate for the provision of State ensured legal assistance and the reimbursable expenses related to the provision thereof shall be covered in accordance with Cabinet regulations governing payment for the provision of State ensured legal assistance.

If the protection of rights and interests is not ensured in criminal proceedings or the victim or his or her representative makes a request, the person directing the proceedings shall take a decision that a lawyer shall provide legal aid to an adult who is disadvantaged or poor or a person who has suddenly come into such a situation and a material condition that prevents him or her from ensuring the protection of his or her rights.

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: 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 Page 10 of 69 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.809 "Regulations Regarding the Assessment of the Material Situation of a Household and Receipt of Social Assistance", adopted 17 December 2020 (regulation in English <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/319717-regulations-regarding-the-assessment-of-the-material-situation-of-a-household-and-receipt-of-social-assistance>), 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 certain types of civil matters is available to persons: whose income level does not exceed the national minimum monthly wage (in 2022 – 500 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	6 000 <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 specify the exact criteria for denying legal aid: The Legal Aid Administration in a Constitutional Court process, in civil matters and certain types of administrative cases is entitled to refuse granting legal aid or to decide the suspension of the provision if the request in this respect is unfounded or if the opinion of the legal aid provider regarding the inexpediency of further legal aid has been received. It is not possible in criminal cases.

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.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
in other than criminal cases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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

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

Sources: Data source: Legal Aid administration (<https://www.jpa.gov.lv/en/legal-aid>)

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) http://www.at.gov.lv/lv/judikatura/judikaturas/nolemumu-arhivs ; https://elieta.lv/web/#/pakalpojumi/anonimizetie-nolemumi	()
Information about the judicial system (organisation of courts, court proceedings, etc)	(X) https://www.tiesas.lv	()
Other documents (e.g. forms, downloadable forms, online registration forms)	(X) https://www.elieta.lv/web/#/pakalpojumi/eveidlapas/tiesai	()

Comment - Please specify what documents and information are included in "Other documents" Information about the judicial system: <https://www.tiesas.lv/>; <https://elieta.lv/web/>; www.at.gov.lv

Other documents: <https://manas.tiesas.lv/eTiesasMvc/nolemumi> - selection of anonymized court judgements,

<https://www.elieta.lv/web/#/pakalpojumi/eveidlapas/tiesai> - e-forms, www.dati.ta.gov.lv - statistical data about courts.

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	[X] Online information [] Telephone [] Interactive chat [] In-person (physical access on site) [] Other [] 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 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

Comments - Please provide more information on these systems and specify how this assistance is provided: 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.

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	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Victims of terrorism	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No
Minors (witnesses or victims)	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Victims of domestic violence	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () 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: Criminal proceedings: "Other vulnerable person" – a person who has suffered from human trafficking, a person who as a result of a criminal offence has been, possibly, inflicted serious bodily injuries or mental impairments, a person who has suffered from a criminal offence, possibly, committed due to racial, national or religious reasons.

“Other special arrangements” – 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.

Criminal proceedings regarding a criminal offence which is related to violence committed by a person upon whom the minor victim is financially or otherwise dependent, or regarding a criminal offence against morals or sexual inviolability, wherein the victim is a minor, shall have preference, in comparison with similar criminal proceedings wherein victims are persons of legal age, in ensuring of a reasonable term. Criminal proceedings against a minor shall have preference, in comparison with similar criminal proceedings against a person of legal age, in the ensuring of a reasonable term.

Provision of legal assistance to a minor victim and the representative of a minor victim is mandatory in criminal proceedings regarding a criminal offence related to violence committed by a person, upon whom the minor victim is financially or otherwise dependent, or regarding a criminal offence against morals or sexual inviolability.

A criminal case regarding a criminal offence against the morality and sexual inviolability, and regarding a criminal offence committed by a minor or against a minor shall be tried in a closed court hearing.

Administrative proceedings:

According to Law on Administrative Liability Article 35 Paragraph 4, the right of a person to use the language in which a person is able to communicate and to use assistance of an interpreter free of charge shall also apply to persons with hearing, speech or visual impairments. It shall be ensured that the proceedings take place in a language which such persons are able to understand or in a manner which a person is able to perceive.

A person may be released from administrative liability if he or she has committed an administrative offence during a time period when he or she was subject to human trafficking and therefore was forced to commit the administrative offence.

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 The course of interrogation of a minor in criminal proceedings shall be recorded in a sound and image recording, if it is in the best interests of the minor and if it is necessary for achieving the objective of criminal proceedings, except when it is in contradiction with the best interests of the minor. A minor shall be interrogated by a performer of an investigative action who has special knowledge regarding communication with a minor during criminal proceedings or in the presence of a pedagogue or a psychologist. There are cases when interrogation can be carried out only with the permission of the investigating judge, and in court - with a court decision.

If it is necessary for the purpose of clarification of the truth in administrative proceedings, any participant to the administrative proceedings and any person present in the courtroom may, pursuant to a court decision, be excluded from the courtroom during the interrogation of a minor witness. A minor shall be interrogated in the presence of his or her representative, a specialist in children's rights, a psychologist or a teacher. Such persons may also ask questions to a minor. After interrogation of the minor his or her testimony shall be read out, and the minor shall be asked questions with the intermediation of a specialist in children's rights, a psychologist or a teacher and he or she will provide answers to them.

When examining cases in civil proceedings that affect the child, the court has the right to clarify the information received from the Orphan's and custody court and to find out the child's opinion directly, if the child is able to articulate it considering his or her age and degree of maturity. The rights and interests of a child must be prioritized in all cases and in any decision or action affecting the child. If violence or violent control affects a child, an application to the court for the protection in the interests of the child can be submitted by one of the child's parents, a guardian, the Orphan's court, or a prosecutor.

The Children's House (Barnahus) is a world-renowned model of inter institutional cooperation, with a particular emphasis on the interests of the child victim and a best-known approach in case of interference by law enforcement authorities. The project hasn't implemented yet,

it should be implemented by the end of March 2024.

031-1. What are the main criteria for a person under 18 years of age to act in court proceedings 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment]16 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment] <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
To be a witness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment]7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Age threshold [Comment] <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity for discernment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - Please specify if you selected "Other". Civil proceedings:

According to Section 106 of the Civil Procedure Law, children under the age of seven may not be summoned or examined as witnesses. Besides, minors cannot be summoned and interrogated as witnesses about circumstances that testify against their parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters (Section 106., Clause 2 of the Civil Procedure Law).

In criminal proceedings a minor can be a witness at any age.

If the victim is a person under 18 years of age, his or her representation by an adult is mandatory. Nevertheless, 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.

"Other" – there are no criteria for a person under 18 years of age to act in court proceedings or to be a witness, but specific arrangements conducting procedural actions must be obeyed in the criminal proceedings.

031-2. If a person under 18 years of age cannot act in court 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"/> Yes, always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, except in some specific situations <input type="checkbox"/> No
Another 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other

Comment Other representative - the representative can also be a person who is not officially a guardian, but who has close contact with the child, if the minor lived with one of them and the relevant relative took care of the minor.

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

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?

-

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

Yes, but only if the offender is unknown

Yes, but only if compensation could not be obtained from the offender

Yes, in both situations

No

Comment A person who, in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Criminal Procedure Law, has been recognised as a victim has the right to receive the State compensation for moral injury, physical suffering or financial loss from an intentional criminal offence.

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:

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

Yes

No

Comments

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:

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

Yes

No

Comments

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:

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

Yes

No

Comments

034. Is there a regular monitoring (official studies, reports etc.) allowing the evaluation of 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:

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

NAP

Comment - If necessary, please specify:

037. Is there a system of compensation in the following circumstances:

	Number of requests for compensation	Number of compensations granted	Total amount of compensations granted (in €)
Total	22 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	50 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	104 314 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Excessive length of proceedings	<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
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/detention	<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
Wrongful conviction	<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
Other	<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 - Where appropriate, please give details on the compensation procedure and the calculation method for the amount of the compensation (e.g., the amount per day for unjustified detentions or convictions): Number of requests for compensation - received at the Ministry of Justice (no data about requests received at prosecutor's office).

The Ministry of Justice informs that the total amount of compensation in 2022 consists of non-pecuniary damages 62147.40 euros, damages 35 699.71 euros, state social insurance contributions 4 776.49 euros and personal income tax compensation 1 912.68 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 2021 was 32 euros ((500 euros : 30 = 16,66 euros); 16 euro x 2 x 1 day = 32 euros).

037-1. Please specify which authorities are responsible for dealing with the requests and whether a legal time limit exists to deal with these requests:

	Responsible authorities	Legal time limit
Court concerned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other court	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ministry of Justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High Judicial Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other external bodies (e.g. Ombudsman)	[X]	[X]
--	-------	-------

Comments One of the institutions who are responsible for dealing with the requests is Prosecutors Office.

037-2. Are there statistical data disaggregated by gender concerning the number of:

	Existence of statistical data disaggregated by gender
Persons who initiate a case in other than criminal matters	() Yes - If yes, please specify for which categories of cases: [Comment] (X) No [] NA
Victims recognised as such by the court	() Yes - If yes, please specify for which types of offences: [Comment] (X) No [] NA
Perpetrators of criminal offences	() Yes - If yes, please specify for which types of offences: [Comment] (X) No [] NA

Comments

037-3. Are there statistical data on the relation between the perpetrator of the criminal offence and the victim recognised by the court?

() Yes

(X) No

If yes, please specify:

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	[] Annual [] Other regular [X] Ad hoc	[] Annual [] Other regular [X] Ad hoc
Surveys for court staff	[] Annual [] Other regular [X] Ad hoc	[] Annual [] Other regular [X] Ad hoc
Surveys for public prosecutors	[] Annual [] Other regular [X] Ad hoc	[] Annual [] Other regular [] Ad hoc
Surveys for lawyers	[] Annual [] Other regular [X] Ad hoc	[] Annual [] Other regular [] Ad hoc

Surveys for other professionals	<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 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 type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other regular <input type="checkbox"/> Ad hoc

NA

Comment - Please, indicate the references and links to the satisfaction surveys you mentioned above: The Legal Aid Administration (<https://www.jpa.gov.lv/lv/darbibas-rezultati>) conducted a customer satisfaction questionnaire on the received state-provided legal aid every year. However, in 2022, due to the low customer response in filling out surveys and the spread of the pandemic in the world, it was decided that such a satisfaction survey will not be conducted. In the following years, the need to conduct such a survey will be evaluated separately. At the same time, it should be noted that in any case, it is possible for clients to individually express gratitude or criticism for the provided legal assistance, and each case is evaluated individually and, if necessary, decisions are made about the necessary improvements in the provision of the service.

On the other hand, customer satisfaction surveys are not conducted for advocates and their work, who operate in free market conditions on the basis of a private agreement, but the supervisory body for advocates - the Council of Sworn advocates of Latvia, receives and examines complaints about sworn advocates and evaluates each case individually. 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 2015 in the national court portal www.tiesas.lv is published the surveys in order to improve the work of the judicial organization. Surveys are 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 the judicial system is measured.

In May 2022, the Prosecution Office requested an independent research centre "SKDS" to conduct a survey of general population regarding their attitude towards the Prosecution Office. The respondents of this survey included 1010 permanent residents of Latvia aged between 18 and 75 years and was conducted via direct interviews at respondents' residences. The respondents were asked to indicate to what extent they trust various state and public institutions. According to the survey data, a total of 61% of respondents trust (answers "completely trust" and "rather trust") the State Police (answer "do not trust": 35%), 47% trust the State Security Service (answer "do not trust": 31%), the Prosecution Office - 47% (answer "do not trust": 36%), Courts - 45% (answer "do not trust": 41%), Corruption Prevention and Combating Office - 42% (answer "do not trust": 42%), Constitution Protection Bureau - 40% (answer "do not trust": 31%), and Financial Intelligence Unit - 34% (answer "do not trust": 32%).

3. Organisation of the court system

3.1.Courts

3.1.1 Number of courts



042. Number of courts - legal entities.

	Number of courts
Total number of all courts - legal entities (1 + 2)	16 [] NA [] NAP
1 Total number of courts of general jurisdiction - legal entities (1.1 + 1.2 + 1.3)	13 [] NA [] NAP
1.1 First instance courts of general jurisdiction - legal entities	7 [] 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	3 [] NA [] NAP

Comments "1.1 First instance courts of general jurisdiction - legal entities": in 2022, three courts were merged into one, creating the Riga City Court.

In Latvia, the two administrative courts and the Economic court are considered as courts of general jurisdiction, but according to the CEPEJ methodology, data are inserted in line 2 "Total number of specialized courts".

043. Number of specialised courts – legal entities.

	First instance	Higher instances
Total number of specialised courts - legal entities	2 [] 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	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments - If "Other specialised courts", please specify:

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)	42 <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)	52 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

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

Sources: Number of courts and its locations is published <https://www.tiesas.lv/tiesas/saraksts>

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)	533 [] NA [] NAP	103 [] NA [] NAP	430 [] NA [] NAP
1. Number of first instance professional judges	370 [] NA [] NAP	60 [] NA [] NAP	310 [] NA [] NAP
2. Number of second instance (court of appeal) professional judges	128 [] NA [] NAP	32 [] NA [] NAP	96 [] 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 professional judges with proportionally reduced remuneration?

Yes

No

Comments

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

- Child-care
- Elderly care or other dependant persons' care
- Training
- For the purposes of early retirement
- No specific reason required
- Other reason, please specify:

Comments

046-1-3. If yes, what is the number of professional judges working part-time with reduced remuneration?

	Total	Males	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	<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
3. At Supreme Court level	<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

046-1-4. Are there other possibilities (apart from part-time) for regular adjustment of working time or conditions with or without reduced remuneration?

	Adjustment of working time or conditions with or without reduced remuneration
Temporary reduction of the workload	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Temporary reduction of the working time / special leave	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comment: If such possibilities for regular adjustment exist, please specify if they imply or not a reduction of the remuneration?

046-1-5. If yes, please specify in which situation(s) these possibilities can be used?

- Child-care
 - Elderly care or other dependant persons' care
 - Training
 - For the purposes of early retirement
 - As part of induction process for new judges
 - No specific reason required
 - Other reason, please specify:
- NAP

Comments

=

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

	Total	Civil and/or commercial	Criminal	Administrative	Other
Total number of judges	533 <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	370 <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	128 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	64 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	43 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	21 <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	14 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	9 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	12 <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:



=

047. Number of court presidents .

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of court presidents (1 + 2 + 3)	16 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	9 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	7 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Number of first instance court presidents	9 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	5 <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	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	2 <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 In the summer of 2022, the number of district (city) courts in Latvia decreased, combining three courts into one, which also affected the reduction of the total number of court presidents. In addition, in 2022, some courts (Riga City Court, Administrative District Court) had a change of court chairpersons, because the previous court president's term of office expired, because the law on "On Judicial Power" of district (city) courts and the chairman of the district court is appointed by the Council of Justice for a term of five years. The change of chairmen also affected the gender distribution.

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	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
In full-time equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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.
- () 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	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
In full time equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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

[X] 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)	1 648 [] NA [] NAP	112 [] NA [] NAP	1 536 [] NA [] NAP
1. Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies) (see Explanatory Note)	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
2. Non-judge (judicial) staff whose task is to assist the judges such as registrars (case preparation, assistance during the hearing, helping to draft the decisions)	1 141 [] NA [] NAP	57 [] NA [] NAP	1 084 [] NA [] 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)	360 [] NA [] NAP	17 [] NA [] NAP	343 [] NA [] NAP
4. Technical staff	129 [] NA [] NAP	35 [] NA [] NAP	94 [] NA [] NAP
5. Other non-judge staff	18 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP	15 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If “Other non-judge staff”, please specify: Other non-judge staff - Supreme court: division of case-law and research, division of provision regime of secrecy, staff of secretariat of the Council for the Judiciary.

The observed variations in the different categories are due to changes in court 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)	1 648 [] NA [] NAP	112 [] NA [] NAP	1 536 [] NA [] NAP

1. Total non-judge staff working in courts at first instance level	1 228 [] NA [] NAP	68 [] NA [] NAP	1 160 [] NA [] NAP
2. Total non-judge staff working in courts at second instance (court of appeal) level	305 [] NA [] NAP	26 [] NA [] NAP	279 [] NA [] NAP
3. Total non-judge staff working in courts at Supreme Court level	115 [] NA [] NAP	18 [] NA [] NAP	97 [] NA [] NAP

Comments The observed variations in the different categories are due to changes in court staff.

=

053. If there are Rechtspfleger (or similar bodies), 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 exact 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, translation services

Comments - If "Other types of services", please specify: "Other": Personal data protection officer, translation services

[] NA

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.)

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of prosecutors (1 + 2 + 3)	457 [] NA [] NAP	187 [] NA [] NAP	270 [] NA [] NAP
1. Number of prosecutors at first instance level	306 [] NA [] NAP	111 [] NA [] NAP	195 [] NA [] NAP
2. Number of prosecutors at second instance (court of appeal) level	89 [] NA [] NAP	42 [] NA [] NAP	47 [] NA [] NAP
3. Number of prosecutors at Supreme Court level	62 [] NA [] NAP	34 [] NA [] NAP	28 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please indicate any useful comment for interpreting the data above:

=

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

() Yes

(X) No

Comments

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

[] Child-care

[] Elderly care or other dependant persons' care

[] Training

[] For the purposes of early retirement

[] No specific reason required

[] Other reason, please specify:

Comments

055-1-3. If yes, what is the number of prosecutors working part-time with reduced remuneration?

Total	Males	Females

Total (1 + 2 + 3)	<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. At first instance level	<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. At second instance (court of appeal) level	<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. At Supreme Court level	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

055-1-4. Are there other possibilities (apart of part-time work) for regular adjustment of working time or conditions with or without reduced remuneration?

	Adjustment of working time or conditions with or without reduced remuneration
Temporary reduction of the workload	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Temporary reduction of the working time / special leave	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Comment: If such possibilities for regular adjustment exist, please specify if they imply or not a reduction of the remuneration?

055-1-5 . If yes, please specify in which situation(s) these possibilities can be used?

- Child-care
- Elderly care or other dependant persons' care
- Training
- For the purposes of early retirement
- As part of induction process for new prosecutors
- No specific reason required
- Other reason, please specify:
- NAP

Comments

056. Number of heads of prosecution offices.

	Total	Males	Females
Total number of heads of prosecution offices (1 + 2 + 3)	29 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	16 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	13 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

1. Number of heads of prosecution offices at first instance level	14 [] NA [] NAP	7 [] NA [] NAP	7 [] NA [] NAP
2. Number of heads of prosecution offices at second instance (court of appeal) level	6 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP
3. Number of heads of prosecution offices at Supreme Court level	9 [] NA [] NAP	6 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP

Please provide any useful comment for interpreting the data above: At the end of 2020, a reorganization was launched in the prosecutor's office with the aim of ensuring rational use of state budget funds, as well as creating a more even distribution of prosecutors' workload. During the reform, which also continued in 2021, the work of individual district-level prosecutor's office units was optimized (reduced number of prosecutors offices and number of heads of offices), at the same time prosecutors were also specialized in criminal offenses committed in the service of state institutions, including those related to corruption.

057. In your judicial system, do other persons have similar duties to those of public prosecutors?

- () Yes
- (X) No

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

057-1. If yes, please provide the 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	[] Yes [X] Yes, specifically for minor victims [] No [] NA [] NAP
Sexual violence	[] Yes [X] Yes, specifically for minor victims [] No [] NA [] NAP



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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	377 [] NA	268 [] NA	109 [] NA

Comment – please describe which categories of staff you have included in your reply: Total number of staff working at the Prosecution Office is 377 (268 male employees, 109 female employees). Of this number, qualified (judicial) support for prosecutors in the performance of their functions, such as assistance during the hearing, helping to draft the decisions (category 2 of the question 52) is provided only by 14 employees. Prosecution Office has 105 prosecutor assistants who provide only technical assistance, they do not provide qualified (judicial) assistance (the functions of prosecutor assistants correspond to those described under category 3 of the question 52). There are also 159 employees that perform different administrative and management tasks. Therefore, the total number of employees in charge of administrative and management tasks is 264. And finally, we have 99 employees that perform technical duties. Changes on proportion of gender of employees are connected with the changes in the number of employees.

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

Sources: Data are collected from the Prosecution office (<https://www.prokuratura.lv/en/par-mums>)

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 - Please specify the status of this person/institution and if it has a consultative function or if its opinions/decisions have legal consequences:

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:

061-9. In order to improve gender balance in access to different judicial professions and gender 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.

061-10. Are there evaluation studies or official reports regarding the main causes of possible gender 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:

[X] NAP

Comments - Please specify also the reference documents.

3.5. Use of information technologies in courts

3.5.1 Governance

ICT STRATEGY

062-01. Do you have an overall Information and Communication Technology (ICT) strategy in the judicial system?

- Yes
- No

Comments An overall ICT strategy in the judicial system is not adopted in Latvia. There is a common ICT strategy in Latvia, regardless of the field of activity. By order of the Cabinet of Ministers of July 7, 2021 No. 490 "On the Digital Transformation Guidelines 2021-2027 for 2020" the Digital Transformation Guidelines were approved, which define Latvia's digital transformation (information society development) policy, covering the period from 2021 to 2027. The guidelines elaborate the settings, directions of action and tasks in the digital transformation policy approved by the NAP 2027.

062-02. If there is an overall ICT strategy in the judicial system, who was involved in the process of its definition?

- Judges (Judicial council)
- Prosecutors (Prosecutorial or judicial council)
- Ministry of justice
- Lawyers (bar association)
- Notaries (association of notaries)
- Enforcement agents (association of enforcement agents)
- Other (please specify) In Latvia the ICT strategy is defined on the state level and the judiciary is following the same strategic path.

[] NA

[] NAP

Comments In Latvia the ICT strategy is defined on the state level and the judiciary is following the same strategic path.

LEGISLATION

062-03. Does a national legislation/regulation of ICT in the judicial system exist?

Yes

No

Comments

062-04. If yes, how is this legislation/regulation of ICT in the judicial system structured?

- Relevant norms are included in the general e-government legislation/regulation
- Relevant norms are included in specific legislation/regulation only for the judicial system
- Relevant texts are included in dedicated technical documents/specifications
- Other, please specify

NA

Comment - If more than one of the proposed models exist in your country, please select them all and explain the details Latvian regulatory acts determine general rules for the use and development of ICT resources, which are applicable to all institutions that maintain or create IS. Latvian regulatory acts determine general rules for the use and development of ICT resources, which are applicable to all institutions that maintain or create IS.

In the judicial system, for the purpose of developing an e-case, the law "Law on the State Platform of Processes in the Electronic Environment" has been adopted, which defines the principles of creating an e-case and the responsibilities and responsibilities of the maintainer of the e-case.

NA

IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ICT SYSTEMS

062-05. Have you already organised audits/evaluations/assessments of the impact of the implementation of the ICT system?

Yes

No

Comments

062-06. If these audits/evaluations/assessments were already organised, please specify their modalities:

	Format	Last conducted audit
ICT Governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the last 2 years <input type="checkbox"/> Between 2 and 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Security and risk management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal <input type="checkbox"/> External <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the last 2 years <input type="checkbox"/> Between 2 and 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Impact on efficiency and quality of the business processes and workflow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the last 2 years <input type="checkbox"/> Between 2 and 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Impact on human resources (number, workload, wellbeing)	<input type="checkbox"/> Internal <input type="checkbox"/> External <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> In the last 2 years <input type="checkbox"/> Between 2 and 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years ago <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Other, please specify in comments	<input type="checkbox"/> Internal <input type="checkbox"/> External <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> In the last 2 years <input type="checkbox"/> Between 2 and 5 years ago <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years ago <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - no audit has been organised <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comment - If you have selected other area, please provide details. Please also add details on the content of the last organised evaluation. According to the Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 442 "Procedures for the Ensuring Conformity of Information and Communication Technologies Systems to Minimum Security Requirements" all government ICT should be performed external security audits at least once within two years by ordering external audit of the security documentation and performance of the intrusion tests.

062-07. If these audits/evaluations/assessments were organised in the last 5 years, how did you apply their recommendations/results?

- Update applications
- Define new ICT projects/modules
- Adjust legislation
- Adjust working processes
- Withdraw/stop use of a module/application
- Reporting purpose only
- Other, please specify

NA
 NAP

Comments

3.5.2 Electronic case processing
ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF CASES

062-08. If it is possible to submit a case to a court electronically, what are the deployment and usage rates?

Deployment rate	Usage rate
-----------------	------------

Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-09. If it is possible to submit a case to a court electronically, please specify the modalities:

	Electronic or paper	Possible to be submitted electronically by:	Data integration
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper submission is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper submission is not possible anymore (electronic submission is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double submission (paper must accompany the electronic submission) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Party not represented by a lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are electronically transferred to the Case Management System (CMS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are manually re-entered in the CMS <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper submission is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper submission is not possible anymore (electronic submission is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double submission (paper must accompany the electronic submission) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Party not represented by a lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are electronically transferred to the Case Management System (CMS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are manually re-entered in the CMS <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper submission is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper submission is not possible anymore (electronic submission is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double submission (paper must accompany the electronic submission) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Party not represented by a lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are electronically transferred to the Case Management System (CMS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are manually re-entered in the CMS <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic submission is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments In civil cases, administrative cases each party can submit a case to a court electronically, but in criminal cases public prosecutor can submit a case to a court electronically. Possible to be submitted electronically by: other - everyone (including natural and legal persons, representatives, lawyers etc.) who can submit case electronically.

SENDING ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS TO COURT

062-10. If it is possible to send case-related documents to the courts electronically, what are the deployment and usage rates?

Deployment rate	Usage rate
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Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-11. If it is possible to send electronically case related documents to the courts, please specify the modalities:

	Electronic or paper	Possible to be submitted electronically by:	Data integration
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper delivery is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper delivery is not possible anymore (electronic delivery is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double delivery (Paper delivery must accompany the electronic one) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by a lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by a party not represented by a lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by another person/institution <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are electronically transferred to the CMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are manually re-entered in the CMS <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper delivery is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper delivery is not possible anymore (electronic delivery is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double delivery (Paper delivery must accompany the electronic one) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by a lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by a party not represented by a lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by another person/institution <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are electronically transferred to the CMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are manually re-entered in the CMS <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper delivery is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper delivery is not possible anymore (electronic delivery is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double delivery (Paper delivery must accompany the electronic one) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by a lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by a party not represented by a lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Documents sent by another person/institution <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are electronically transferred to the CMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The data are manually re-entered in the CMS <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic delivery is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comment - If you have selected the option “Documents sent by another person/institution”, please specify details.

ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATIONS

062-12. If it is possible for courts to send electronic notifications, what are the deployment and usage rates?

	Deployment rate	Usage rate
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-13. If it is possible for courts to send electronic notifications, please specify the modalities:

	Electronic or paper	Type of notification	Data integration
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper notification is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper notification is not possible anymore (electronic notification is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double notification (paper notification must accompany the electronic one) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent by the court to the lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent by the court to the party not represented by a lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications with attached official documents sent by the courts <input type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent to other persons/institutions <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The electronic notification is generated from the CMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The electronic notification is manually generated <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

<p>Administrative</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper notification is still possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Paper notification is not possible anymore (electronic notification is the only way)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Double notification (paper notification must accompany the electronic one)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent by the court to the lawyer</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent by the court to the party not represented by a lawyer</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications with attached official documents sent by the courts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent to other persons/institutions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The electronic notification is generated from the CMS</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The electronic notification is manually generated</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>
<p>Criminal</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paper notification is still possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Paper notification is not possible anymore (electronic notification is the only way)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Double notification (paper notification must accompany the electronic one)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent by the court to the lawyer</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent by the court to the party not represented by a lawyer</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications with attached official documents sent by the courts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Notifications sent to other persons/institutions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The electronic notification is generated from the CMS</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The electronic notification is manually generated</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic notifications are not possible</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>

Comment - If you have selected the option “Notifications sent to other persons/institutions”, please specify details.

CONSULTATION OF A CASE ONLINE

062-14. If it is possible for external users to consult a case online, what are the deployment and usage rates?

Deployment rate	Usage rate
-----------------	------------

Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - online consultation is not possible <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - online consultation is not possible <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - online consultation is not possible <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-15. If it is possible for external users to consult a case online, please specify the modalities:

	Content	Access	Consultation format
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Events/calendar <input type="checkbox"/> Court decision <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Party not represented by a lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic access at the court premises <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Events/calendar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Court decision <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Party not represented by a lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic access at the court premises <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notifications <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Events/calendar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Court decision <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Party not represented by a lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic access at the court premises <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – online consultation is not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comment - If you have selected the option “Other”, please specify details. All cases materials for parties are available online - in ecase portal www.elieta.lv

REMOTE HEARINGS

062-16. If it is possible to organise remote hearings what are the deployment and usage rates?

	Deployment rate	Usage rate
Civil	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 %	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 %
	<input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 %	<input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 %
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 50-75 %	<input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 %
	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 %	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25-50 %
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 %	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 %
	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 %	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 %
	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP - remote hearings are not possible	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP - remote hearings are not possible
	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-17. If it is possible to organise remote hearings, please specify the functionalities and modalities:

	Functionalities	Modalities
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dedicated tool specially designed for the use by courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly available tools used by courts <input type="checkbox"/> Organisation of private sessions within online hearings for consultation between parties and their lawyers <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for witness protection (voice distortion, picture distortion) <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for simultaneous interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for automatic subtitling (speech-to-text) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreement of the parties is needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The judge can impose a remote hearing <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dedicated tool specially designed for the use by courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly available tools used by courts <input type="checkbox"/> Organisation of private sessions within online hearings for consultation between parties and their lawyers <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for witness protection (voice distortion, picture distortion) <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for simultaneous interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for automatic subtitling (speech-to-text) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreement of the parties is needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The judge can impose a remote hearing <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dedicated tool specially designed for the use by courts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly available tools used by courts <input type="checkbox"/> Organisation of private sessions within online hearings for consultation between parties and their lawyers <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for witness protection (voice distortion, picture distortion) <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for simultaneous interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> Tools for automatic subtitling (speech-to-text) <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreement of the parties is needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The judge can impose a remote hearing <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – remote hearings are not possible <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

ELECTRONIC ARCHIVES

062-18. If electronic archives of cases exist, what are the deployment and usage rates?

Deployment rate	Usage rate
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Civil	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP - electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-19. If an electronic archive of cases exists, please specify the modalities:

	Electronic or paper
Civil	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper archiving is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper archiving is not possible anymore (electronic archiving is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double archiving (paper archiving must accompany the electronic one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper archiving is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper archiving is not possible anymore (electronic archiving is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double archiving (paper archiving must accompany the electronic one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper archiving is still possible <input type="checkbox"/> Paper archiving is not possible anymore (electronic archiving is the only way) <input type="checkbox"/> Double archiving (paper archiving must accompany the electronic one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP – electronic archives do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
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Comments

3.5.3 Tools

CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (CMS)

062-20. If one or more case management system(s) (CMS) exist, what are the deployment and usage rates?

	Deployment rate	Usage rate
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-21. If one or more case management system(s) (CMS) exist, please specify the functionalities of these system(s):

	Functionalities
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Centralised and/or interoperable CMS databases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active case management dashboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Random allocation of cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case weighting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identification of a case between instances (unique or linked id number) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic transfer of a case to another instance/court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymisation of decisions to be published <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interoperability with other systems (civil register, tax register, insolvency register) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access to closed/resolved cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced search engine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected log files <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic signature <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Centralised and/or interoperable CMS databases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active case management dashboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Random allocation of cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case weighting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identification of a case between instances (unique or linked id number) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic transfer of a case to another instance/court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymisation of decisions to be published <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interoperability with other systems (civil register, tax register, insolvency register) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access to closed/resolved cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced search engine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected log files <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic signature <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comment - If you have selected the option “Other special functionality”, because of its importance please specify details.

062-22. If one or more case management system(s) (CMS) exist, please specify the functionalities of these system(s):

	Functionalities
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Centralised and/or interoperable CMS databases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active case management dashboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Random allocation of cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case weighting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identification of a case between instances (unique or linked id number) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic transfer of a case to another instance/court <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymisation of decisions to be published <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interoperability with prosecution system <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interoperability with other systems (civil register, tax register, insolvency register) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access to closed/resolved cases <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced search engine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected log files <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic signature <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – CMS does not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comment - If you have selected the option “Other special functionality”, please specify the details.

WRITING ASSISTANCE TOOLS

062-23. If writing assistance tools exist in courts, what are their deployment and usage rates?

	Deployment rate	Usage rate
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-24. If writing assistance tools exist in courts, please describe their functionalities:

	Functionalities
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Templates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatically generated text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatically suggested decision <input type="checkbox"/> Speech-to-text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic signature <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Templates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatically generated text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatically suggested decision <input type="checkbox"/> Speech-to-text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic signature <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Templates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatically generated text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatically suggested decision <input type="checkbox"/> Speech-to-text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic signature <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – writing assistance tools do not exist <input type="checkbox"/> NA
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Comment - If you have selected the option “Other special functionality”, please specify the details.

RECORDING OF COURT HEARINGS

062-25. If a tool to record court hearings exists, what are the deployment and usage rates?

	Deployment rate	Usage rate
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-26. If a tool to record court hearings exist, please specify its functionalities:

Functionalities

<p>Civil</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio recording <input type="checkbox"/> Video recording <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Systematic recording for all hearings <input type="checkbox"/> Automatically indexed recording <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic transcript from recording <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Possibility to request a copy of the recording <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>
<p>Administrative</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio recording <input type="checkbox"/> Video recording <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Systematic recording for all hearings <input type="checkbox"/> Automatically indexed recording <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic transcript from recording <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Possibility to request a copy of the recording <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>
<p>Criminal</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audio recording <input type="checkbox"/> Video recording <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Systematic recording for all hearings <input type="checkbox"/> Automatically indexed recording <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic transcript from recording <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Possibility to request a copy of the recording <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – there is no tool for recording hearings <input type="checkbox"/> NA</p>

Comment - If you have selected the option “Other special functionality”, please specify the details.

DATABASE OF COURT DECISIONS

062-27. If there is a national database of court decisions, please provide the percentage of the decisions published at each instance.

Percentage of 1st instance decisions published	Percentage of 2nd instance decisions published	Percentage of Supreme court decisions published
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Civil	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments All court rulings are not published in the databases Only anonymized court rulings are available in these databases. These databases are available to every internet user.

062-28. If there is a national database of court decisions, please specify the modalities in publishing these decisions:

	1st instance	2nd instance	Supreme court
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP- There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP- There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP- There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published online (public website) <input type="checkbox"/> Published in an internal database <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA

- If you have selected the option “Other” because the court decisions are published online in some other way than the presented modalities, please describe.

062-29. If there is a database of court decisions at national level, what are the functionalities of this database?

	Functionalities
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatic anonymisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manual anonymisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Free public online access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Link to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) <input type="checkbox"/> Open data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced search engine <input type="checkbox"/> Machine-readable content <input type="checkbox"/> Structured content <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metadata <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatic anonymisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manual anonymisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Free public online access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Link to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) <input type="checkbox"/> Open data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced search engine <input type="checkbox"/> Machine-readable content <input type="checkbox"/> Structured content <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metadata <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatic anonymisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manual anonymisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Free public online access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Link to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) <input type="checkbox"/> Open data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced search engine <input type="checkbox"/> Machine-readable content <input type="checkbox"/> Structured content <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metadata <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – There is no database for these decisions <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comment - If you have selected the option “Other special functionality”, please specify the details.

STATISTICAL TOOLS

062-30. If there are statistical tools for analysing court case data, what is their deployment rate?

	Deployment rate
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95-100 % <input type="checkbox"/> 75-95 % <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75 % <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50 % <input type="checkbox"/> 1-25 % <input type="checkbox"/> 0 % <input type="checkbox"/> NAP - there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

062-31. If there are statistical tools for analysing court case data, please describe their functionalities and the data available for statistical analysis:

	Functionalities	Data available for statistical analysis
Civil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integration/connection with the CMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business intelligence software <input type="checkbox"/> Generation of predefined statistical reports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generation of customised statistical reports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal page and/or dashboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External page with statistics (public website) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real-time data availability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatic consolidation of data at the national level <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case flow data (number of incoming, resolved, pending) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of a pending case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Length of proceedings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of hearings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cases per judge <input type="checkbox"/> Case weights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of parties in a case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indicator of appeal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Result of the appeal <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Administrative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integration/connection with the CMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business intelligence software <input type="checkbox"/> Generation of predefined statistical reports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generation of customised statistical reports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal page and/or dashboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External page with statistics (public website) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real-time data availability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatic consolidation of data at the national level <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case flow data (number of incoming, resolved, pending) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of a pending case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Length of proceedings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of hearings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cases per judge <input type="checkbox"/> Case weights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of parties in a case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indicator of appeal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Result of the appeal <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Criminal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integration/connection with the CMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business intelligence software <input type="checkbox"/> Generation of predefined statistical reports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generation of customised statistical reports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal page and/or dashboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External page with statistics (public website) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real-time data availability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automatic consolidation of data at the national level <input type="checkbox"/> Other special functionality, please specify <input type="checkbox"/> NAP – there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case flow data (number of incoming, resolved, pending) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of a pending case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Length of proceedings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of hearings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cases per judge <input type="checkbox"/> Case weights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of parties in a case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indicator of appeal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Result of the appeal <input type="checkbox"/> NAP– there are no statistical tools <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comment - If you have selected the option “Other special functionality”, please specify the details

OTHER TOOLS

062-32. Is there any application for online court-related dispute resolution?

Yes

No

Comments It is possible to submit a claim through E-case portal, under section "E-forms".

062-33. If yes, is there a maximum value over which online court-related dispute resolution cannot be organised?

- Yes, please specify the maximum value
- No

Comments

062-34. If yes, can the online court-related dispute resolution be used in the following areas?

- Small claim litigation
- Undisputed claim
- Payment order
- Misdemeanour criminal cases
- Enforcement of civil cases
- Other, please specify

Comment: Please describe the existing online procedures:

062-35. Is there a computerised national record centralising all criminal convictions?

- Yes
- No

Comments

062-36. If yes, please specify the following information:

- The computerised record includes biometric data (ex. fingerprint data, picture)
- The computerised record is linked to other European records of the same nature (ex. ECRIS)
- The content is directly available through computerised means for judges and/or prosecutors (ex. interoperability with the CMS)
- The content is directly available for purposes other than criminal (ex. civil and administrative matters)
- The record contains conviction information on third-country nationals and stateless persons

Comments The content is directly available for purposes other than criminal cases (ex.civil and administrative matters): anyone who has access rights for this register, can view its data.

062-37. Is there a Document Management System (DMS) in the registry of courts?

- Yes
- No

Comment: If yes, please provide details on the purposes and usage of this system. DMS is integrated in Court information system and provides registration and document flow of incoming and outgoing documents.

062-38. In addition to the tools listed in the ICT section of this questionnaire does your judicial system use other innovative ICT tools?

- Yes

() No

Comment: If yes, please list and describe these ICT tools. New court decision anonymisation tool with artificial intelligence elements to recognize and substitute text with pseudonyms; Case documents turner tool allow judge to review case electronic documents; Image processing tool provides different image formatting possibilities; Virtual assistants enables e-case portal users to identify issues of interest to themselves on specific topics at any time of day. Virtual assistant “Justs” is available on the E-case portal www.elieta.lv
“Robot” ensures automated workflow for submitted e-forms (specific type) from portal 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)?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments - If yes, please specify: The reply is partly “yes” because according to the Law on Judicial Power Section 27.1., a Chief Judge of a court shall plan and determine the objectives of the court work in relation to average time periods for adjudication of matters in a court (standard of time periods for adjudication of matters) prior to the beginning of each calendar year, in co-operation with court judges. This standard shall be determined, taking into account the court resources and the necessity to ensure the right of a person to adjudication of a matter in a reasonable time period and other basic principles related to the guarantee of fair trial. A Chief Judge of a court shall approve the standard and supervise the actual time periods of examining matters in a court. He/she shall submit information to the Board of Justice regarding the approved standard until 1 February of each year. In January 15, 2020 the “Visitors service standards of the district (city) courts and regional courts” were approved. This document summarizes the general principles related to functions such as judicial reception and providing with information. The standards help court staff to raise their professionalism and understand the court visitors servicing values.

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 Measuring court/public prosecution services

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

[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)
- [] costs of the judicial procedures
- [X] number of appeals
- [X] appeal ratio
- [X] clearance rate
- [X] 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.

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

- [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 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
- [X] 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:

- [X] civil law cases
- [X] criminal law cases
- [X] administrative law cases

Comments

072. Do you monitor waiting time during judicial proceedings?

Yes (If yes, please specify)	No
------------------------------	----

within the courts	(X) On an irregular basis, the Ministry of Justice and the Council of Justice analyze the number of days (period) from the initiation or receipt of the case in court to the moment when the case review is started.	()
within the public prosecution services	()	(X)

Comments "Within the courts": On an irregular basis, the Ministry of Justice and the Council of Justice analyze the number of days (period) from the initiation or receipt of the case in court to the moment when the case review is started.

073. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly court performance based on the monitored indicators of question 70?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

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

() Annual

() Less frequent

(X) More frequent

Comments - If "Less frequent" or "More frequent", please specify:

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

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

073-2. If yes, which courses of action are taken (multiple replies possible)?

[X] Identifying the causes of improved or deteriorated performance

[X] Reallocating resources (human/financial resources based on performance)

[X] Reengineering of internal procedures to increase efficiency

[X] Other (please specify): indicators of judicial work are taken into account during the implementation of various reforms - for example, the territorial reform of courts.

Comments "Other": indicators of judicial work are taken into account during the implementation of various reforms - for example, the territorial reform of courts.

073-3. Do you have a system to evaluate regularly the performance of the public prosecution services based on the monitored indicators of question 70-1?

(X) Yes

() No

Comments

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

- Annual
- Less frequent
- More frequent

Comments - If "less frequent" or "more frequent", please specify: The performance of public prosecution service is monitored on regular basis, and it falls under the responsibility of head prosecutors of each structural unit of Prosecution Office as well as the higher-ranking prosecutors. The overall productivity of prosecutors is also monitored by the Prosecutor General and in the case of prosecution staff by the Director of the Administrative Service of the Prosecution Office.

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

- Yes
- No

Comments

073-6. If yes, which courses of action are taken (multiple replies possible)?

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

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 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): Court Administration

No

Comments

080-1. Are the statistics on the functioning of each court published?

Yes, on the internet (please provide the link) dati.ta.gov.lv; for the Supreme Court:

<https://www.at.gov.lv/en/tiesvediba/statistika/2022>

No, only internally (on an intranet website)

No

Comments dati.ta.gov.lv; for the Supreme Court: <https://www.at.gov.lv/en/tiesvediba/statistika/2022>

=

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): Prosecution Office

No

Comments

080-3. Are the statistics on the functioning of each public prosecution service published?

Yes, on the internet (please provide the link) <https://prokuratura.lv/lv/par-mums/publiskie-parskati/gada-zinojumi>

No, only internally (on an intranet website)

No

Comments <https://prokuratura.lv/lv/par-mums/publiskie-parskati/gada-zinojumi>

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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 primarily intended): Every year, the Riga Regional Court organizes a conference to discuss current issues of the quality and efficiency of the work of the appellate instance court, where various statistical data are analyzed.

The annual activity report of the Supreme Court of Latvia (Senate) contains the following information: -information about the leadership

of the Supreme Court;

-information about decisions adopted at meetings of the Supreme Court Plenary Session;

-duties and responsibilities of senators, composition of senators in Supreme Court departments, and various statistical data (length of service, age etc.);

-overview presented by the Supreme Court President regarding the performance results of the previous year and objectives of the coming year;

-statistical data/ Supreme Court performance indicators (number of received cases, examined cases, pending cases in general and in Supreme Court departments, workload of senators, average length of proceedings;

-overview of performance indicators by structural units of the Supreme Court (the Department of Civil Cases, the Department of Criminal Cases, the Department of Administrative Cases, the Division of Case-law and Research, the Administration of the Supreme Court, the Disciplinary Court).

The report is presented at the Annual Plenary Session of the Supreme Court with participation of the Prosecutor General and the Minister of Justice. Media representatives are also invited to attend. The report is published in the Supreme Court Bulletin (in paper and digitally) and on the website of the Supreme Court, therefore it is accessible to any interested person.

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

=

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. for whom the report is primarily intended):

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

3.6.4 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 these 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

083-1-1. What are the consequences for a judge if these targets are not met?

	Consequences:
Without disciplinary procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Warning by court's president <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary salary reduction <input type="checkbox"/> Reflected in the individual assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: [Comment]
With disciplinary procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Warning by court's president <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary salary reduction <input type="checkbox"/> Reflected in the individual assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: [Comment]
-	<input type="checkbox"/> No consequences
-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP (no targets defined)

Comments

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

Existence of a system of individual evaluation of the judges' work

Quantitative	(X) Yes () No
Qualitative	(X) Yes () No

Comment: Please specify the criteria on which the assessment is based, the authority competent for carrying out the assessment, the purposes for which the results of the assessment are used:

114-1. Please specify the frequency of this evaluation:

- () Annual
- () Less frequent
- () More frequent
- (X) Different frequencies used, please specify: once every five years
- [] NAP

=

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

- (X) Yes
- () No

Comments

083-3. Who is responsible for setting these targets for each public prosecutor?

- [] Executive power (for example the Ministry of Justice)
- [] Prosecutor General /State public prosecutor
- [] Public Prosecutorial Council
- [X] Head of the organisational unit or hierarchically superior public prosecutor
- [] Other (please specify):
- [] NAP

Comments

083-3-1. What are the consequences for a prosecutor if these targets are not met?

	Consequences:
Without disciplinary procedure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warning by head of prosecution <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary salary reduction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reflected in the individual assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: [Comment] <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

With disciplinary procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Warning by head of prosecution <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary salary reduction <input type="checkbox"/> Reflected in the individual assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: [Comment] <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
No consequences	<input type="checkbox"/> No consequences <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

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

	Existence of a system of individual evaluation of the public prosecutors' work
Quantitative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Qualitative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comment: Please specify the criteria on which the assessment is based, the authority competent for carrying out the assessment, the purposes for which the results of the assessment are used:

120-1. Please specify the frequency of this evaluation:

- Annual
- Less frequent
- More frequent
- Different frequencies used, please specify:
- NAP

Comments

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

Sources: Data sources: the Prosecution Office, Court administration, Ministry of Justice

4. Fair trial

4.1. Principles

4.1.1 Principles 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)?

- []
- 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?

Yes

No

Comments - Please could you briefly specify:

085-1. If yes, what are:

	-
The total number of the initiated procedures in the reference year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
The total number of recusals pronounced in the reference year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comment - Please, could you briefly specify:

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

For civil procedures (non-enforcement)

For civil procedures (timeframe)

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

For civil cases

For criminal cases

For administrative cases

NAP

Comments

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

Sources: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/50500-civil-procedure-law>; <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/107820-criminal-procedure-law>; <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/55567-administrative-procedure-law>

4.2. Timeframe of proceedings

4.2.1 General information

087. Are there specific procedures for urgent matters regarding:

- civil cases
- criminal cases
- administrative cases
- There is no specific procedure for urgent matters

Comments - If yes, please specify: The Civil Procedure Law contains several specific procedures for urgent matters. For example, an application for securing a claim should be considered not later than the day following the receipt. Real evidence that deteriorates rapidly shall be inspected by the court without delay. The court is entitled to take conservatory measures in the frame of a divorce procedure with regard to issues such as the child care, the support of the spouse, utilisation of the joint home etc. 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. Before mentioned amendments it 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 criminal matters, the Criminal Procedure Law regulates pre-trial criminal procedure peculiarities related to urgency procedures. For example, it is possible to resort to an urgency procedure if: the person who committed the crime was caught red handed or immediately after the commitment of the offence; the person has committed a less serious crime; the investigation can be carried out within few days. The Administrative Procedure Law and the Latvian Administrative Violations Code do not provide for a specific procedure for urgent cases. Notwithstanding, administrative courts proceed in practice to faster examination in cases concerning the interests of a child, immigration issues, etc. If the matter in its merits also applies to institution of provisional regulations, the Latvian Administrative Procedure Law provides for it. Finally, the Latvian Administrative Violations Code provides for exceptions to the general procedure. For example, an urgent procedure can take place in respect of administrative violation matters in the road traffic or in respect of matters regarding administrative violations in sea transport.

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: In civil matters, simplified procedures are generally used for adjudication of small claims. The amount of the small claim is EUR 2500. Simplified procedures exist also in respect of compulsory execution of payment obligations. In criminal matters, the Criminal Procedure Law provides for simplified urgent procedures if the person who committed a criminal offense is identified, or if it is possible to complete the investigation within few days, or also in case of a plea of guilty when the prosecutor establishes an agreement with the accused. Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Law entered into force on 1 September 2018. Their aim is to ensure the abandonment of formal, duplicative procedural actions and documents, to create preconditions for a more effective locking of investigative actions, for a faster, simplified movement of criminal proceedings to the prosecutor's office and the court, and to simplify the suspension, renewal and termination of criminal proceedings in the event of a limitation period. In administrative matters, simplified procedures exist with regard to violations in the field of road traffic. The decision should be adopted Page 34 of 69 immediately after the determination of the violation. In case of violations of binding regulations issued by a local government city council, a fine up to EUR 30 may be imposed at the place the violation was committed, without drawing up a report, if the violator does not dispute the fine imposed thereon.

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: Section 252 of Administrative Procedure Law provides for the possibility in a case in which a court has determined that a judgment is to be enforced immediately (Section 265.), the court may draw up a judgment in an abridged form consisting of an introductory part and an operative part. However, it should be seen in conjunction with the Administrative Procedure Law section 251 which provides that that a judgment shall be drawn up in writing.

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 etc.)?

	Yes	No
Agreement on general arrangements	()	(X)
Agreement in specific cases	()	(X)

Comments

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)	31 451 [] NA [] NAP	369 949 [] NA [] NAP	367 478 [] NA [] NAP	33 922 [] NA [] NAP	783 [] NA [] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	16 792 [] NA [] NAP	29 977 [] NA [] NAP	29 759 [] NA [] NAP	17 010 [] NA [] NAP	763 [] NA [] NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	13 422 [] NA [] NAP	338 098 [] NA [] NAP	335 711 [] NA [] NAP	15 809 [] NA [] NAP	2 [] 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)	8 530 [] NA [] NAP	86 531 [] NA [] NAP	84 100 [] NA [] NAP	10 961 [] NA [] NAP	2 [] NA [] NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	4 892 [] NA [] NAP	251 567 [] NA [] NAP	251 611 [] NA [] NAP	4 848 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	4 892 [] NA [] NAP	251 567 [] NA [] NAP	251 611 [] NA [] NAP	4 848 [] 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	1 237 [] NA [] NAP	1 874 [] NA [] NAP	2 008 [] NA [] NAP	1 103 [] NA [] NAP	18 [] NA [] NAP
4. Other cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments In 2022 the increase in the balance of pending cases is related to changes in data collection, more specifically, from 2023 it is possible to determine the number of unfinished cases in non-litigious land registry cases.

The number of pending cases on Jan. and on 31.Dec. is higher than 2020 year due high number of pending non-litigious cases. Every year

from 2019, significant increase in the number of non-litigious civil cases has been observed. Compared to the 2020, the number of incoming cases and resolved cases increased significantly. The increase of incoming cases and resolved cases of non-litigious civil cases affected increase of pending cases. In the end of 2021, amendments to the Civil Procedure Law entered into force, which made it easier to submit applications for enforcement of obligations according to warning procedures, these changes contributed to the increase in the number of non-litigious cases received. Civil Procedure Law determines that the judge shall, within seven days take a decision The short case review period contributes to that the number of received and completed cases is similar.

The number of pending cases (pending for more than 2 years) has decreased. The reduction of pending cases is related to the increased interest and pressure of the public, the Council of Justice and the Ministry of Justice to reduce the number of long pending civil and administrative cases.

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

. Civil (and commercial) non - litigious cases include (1) cases of uncontested enforcement of obligations (2) cases of enforcement of Obligations according to warning procedures and (3) cases of voluntary sale of immovable property at auction through the court.

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)	4 578 [] NA [] NAP	8 930 [] NA [] NAP	9 200 [] NA [] NAP	4 308 [] NA [] NAP	639 [] NA [] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	3 389 [] NA [] NAP	4 553 [] NA [] NAP	4 765 [] NA [] NAP	3 177 [] NA [] NAP	628 [] NA [] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	956 [] NA [] NAP	2 406 [] NA [] NAP	2 530 [] NA [] NAP	832 [] NA [] NAP	4 [] NA [] NAP
3. Other criminal cases	233 [] NA [] NAP	1 971 [] NA [] NAP	1 905 [] NA [] NAP	299 [] NA [] NAP	7 [] NA [] 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 The decrease in the number of resolved cases is related to the drop in the number of cases received in the courts of first instance.

Decrease of pending cases on 1 Jan is related to the decrease of misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases. In the middle of 2020, Saeima adopted Law on Administrative Liability that affected amount of incoming and resolved of misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases significantly. According to the law, if the person intends to use his right to appeal a decision, he/she needs to address the complain

to the higher official from institution which has made this decision, but if there is no higher official, a decision may be appealed to a district (city) court. This is the main reason for decrease of incoming misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases.

In 2022 the increase in the number of pending cases at the end of the year is related to changes in data collection systems` audit, more specifically, for misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases. Severe criminal cases, which are assessed according to the Latvian Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure Law, are decreasing each year. The tendency of the decrease in the number of criminal cases has been observed for a longer period of time. The reduction of severe criminal cases can be explained by changes in legislation. (In the summer of 2020, amendments to the Criminal Procedure Law entered into force, which stipulated that the case for minor violations of the criminal law is not referred for initiation of criminal proceedings (Section 373 An investigator with a consent of a prosecutor or a prosecutor may refuse to initiate criminal proceedings, if a misdemeanor has been committed), which affected the the total number of criminal law cases received in court. A decrease in the number of criminal cases received has been observed since 2019.

The number of pending cases (pending for more then 2 years) has significantly decreased. The decrease in cases is due to the lifting of restrictions, which were related to limiting the spread of Covid-19. The reduction of pending cases also is related to the court reform, increased interest and pressure of the public, the Council of Justice and the Ministry of Justice to reduce the number of long pending criminal cases. Starting from 2022, data on "other criminal cases" are also collected and inserted in the table.

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)	1 670 [] NA [] NAP	4 439 [] NA [] NAP	4 288 [] NA [] NAP	1 821 [] NA [] NAP	27 [] NA [] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	1 102 [] NA [] NAP	3 385 [] NA [] NAP	3 243 [] NA [] NAP	1 244 [] NA [] NAP	24 [] NA [] NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	22 [] NA [] NAP	123 [] NA [] NAP	115 [] NA [] NAP	30 [] 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)	10 [] NA [] NAP	37 [] NA [] NAP	46 [] NA [] NAP	1 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.2. Registry cases (2.2.1+2.2.2+2.2.3)	12 [] NA [] NAP	86 [] NA [] NAP	69 [] NA [] NAP	29 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP

2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	12 [] NA [] NAP	86 [] NA [] NAP	69 [] NA [] NAP	29 [] 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	546 [] NA [] NAP	931 [] NA [] NAP	930 [] NA [] NAP	547 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP
4. Other cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP

Comments - If “Other cases” please specify Data on incoming, resolved non-litigious civil cases in appeal court decreased in 2022, but the changes cannot be explained.

It should be mentioned that the statistical system has been improved which affected the 2022 data. Moreover, 2020 and 2021 data have been updated according to the same methodology of presentation of data as for 2022 data. The number of pending cases (pending for more than 2 years) has significantly decreased. The decrease in cases is due to the lifting of restrictions, which were related to limiting the spread of Covid-19. The reduction of pending cases (pending more than 2 years) is related to a interest and pressure of the public, the Council of Justice and the Ministry of Justice to reduce the number of long pending criminal cases.

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)	691 [] NA [] NAP	2 567 [] NA [] NAP	2 377 [] NA [] NAP	881 [] NA [] NAP	10 [] NA [] NAP
1. Severe criminal cases	487 [] NA [] NAP	1 438 [] NA [] NAP	1 291 [] NA [] NAP	634 [] NA [] NAP	10 [] NA [] NAP
2. Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	172 [] NA [] NAP	921 [] NA [] NAP	869 [] NA [] NAP	224 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. Other criminal cases	32 [] NA [] NAP	208 [] NA [] NAP	217 [] NA [] NAP	23 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] 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: Decrease of incoming and resolved cases is mainly related to the impact of decrease of misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases. In the middle of 2020, Saeima adopted Law on Administrative Liability that affected amount of incoming and resolved of misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases significantly. According to the law, if the person intends to use his right to appeal a decision, he/she needs to address the complain to the higher official from institution which has made this decision, but if there is no higher official, a decision may be appealed to a district (city) court. As the number of cases in the courts of first instance decreases, the number of cases in the regional courts also

decreases. This is the main reason for decrease of incoming and resolved misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases. Of course, there is also a decrease in the number of serious criminal cases, which is related to the overall decrease in criminal cases in the courts of first instance.

The number of pending cases on 31.Dec. has increased due to a limited capacity of the largest appeal court (Rīgas apgabaltiesa (The Riga Regional court)): the number of judges in the Board of criminal cases has decreased and some serious criminal cases were completed. The Riga Regional Court is the largest appeal court in Latvia. This court has the largest amount of work and the workload of the judge compared to other appeal courts.

The number of pending cases (pending for more than 2 years) has significantly decreased. The decrease in cases is explained:

- due to the lifting of restrictions, which were related to limiting the spread of Covid-19;
- due to the increased interest and pressure of the public, the Council of Justice and the Ministry of Justice to reduce the number of long pending criminal 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)	1 017 [] NA [] NAP	1 543 [] NA [] NAP	1 709 [] NA [] NAP	851 [] NA [] NAP	127 [] NA [] NAP
1. Civil (and commercial) litigious cases (including litigious enforcement cases and if possible without administrative law cases, see category 3)	420 [] NA [] NAP	893 [] NA [] NAP	953 [] NA [] NAP	360 [] NA [] NAP	5 [] NA [] NAP
2. Non litigious cases (2.1+2.2+2.3)	5 [] NA [] NAP	20 [] NA [] NAP	20 [] NA [] NAP	5 [] 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)	5 [] NA [] NAP	20 [] NA [] NAP	20 [] NA [] NAP	5 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2.2.1. Non litigious land registry cases	5 [] NA [] NAP	20 [] NA [] NAP	20 [] NA [] NAP	5 [] 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	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. Administrative law cases	592 [] NA [] NAP	630 [] NA [] NAP	736 [] NA [] NAP	486 [] NA [] NAP	122 [] 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 Number of incoming cases have diminished in general, therefore all indicators have been affected. For small numbers of cases, the indicator shows an impact although in general there is none.

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: 1280

() No

Comments 326 administrative law cases, 565 civil cases, 389 criminal law cases.

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)	235 [] NA [] NAP	558 [] NA [] NAP	633 [] NA [] NAP	160 [] NA [] NAP	1 [] 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 Several judges have retired and new judges have started to work at the Supreme Court. This has made an impact on the case flow. Year 2021 the case flow was slow. Year 2022 the number of resolved cases allowed to diminish the backlog.

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 cases older than 2 years from the date the case came to the first instance court
Litigious divorce cases	991 [] NA [] NAP	1 362 [] NA [] NAP	1 418 [] NA [] NAP	936 [] NA [] NAP	24 [] NA [] NAP
Employment dismissal cases	21 [] NA [] NAP	67 [] NA [] NAP	63 [] NA [] NAP	25 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
Insolvency	2 532 [] NA [] NAP	1 411 [] NA [] NAP	1 528 [] NA [] NAP	2 415 [] NA [] NAP	270 [] NA [] NAP
Robbery case	107 [] NA [] NAP	99 [] NA [] NAP	108 [] NA [] NAP	97 [] NA [] NAP	24 [] NA [] NAP
Intentional homicide	57 [] NA [] NAP	38 [] NA [] NAP	54 [] NA [] NAP	40 [] NA [] NAP	7 [] NA [] NAP

Comments Data on employment dismissal cases differs from previous period due a change of methodology. In the previous period data included all disputes between employer and employee.

Changes of data on insolvency cases is changed due an effect of previous regulation about limiting the spread of COVID-19 and mitigating the economic difficulties that may arise with restrictions. In 2020 the Saeima and Cabinet of Ministers adopted regulations aimed at reducing the impact of restrictions on business. The rules limited the possibility for creditors to immediately submit insolvency cases. These rules affected the amount of cases received in 2020, 2021, which allowed the courts to reduce the backlog of pending cases. The changes on resolved insolvency cases can not be explained.

Changes of data on incoming and pending robbery cases is related to the possibility of prosecutors to impose a sentence (on order on the sentence). Pending cases older than 2 years is not changed meaningfully (in 2020 pending cases older than 2 years were 19).

Changes of the number of resolved and pending intentional homicide cases is related to a smaller amount of homicide cases received in courts, the lifting of restrictions on the spread of Covid-19, that allowed face-to-face court meetings. The number of pending cases (pending for more then 2 years) has decreased for insolvency cases, these changes are connected with the tendency of reducing backlog of pending cases due pressure of Judicial Council, Ministry of Justice.



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101-0. Number of 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 cases for more than 2 years
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

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 rights 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	126 [] NA [] NAP	108 [] NA [] NAP	98 [] NA [] NAP	138 [] NA [] NAP	41 [] NA [] NAP
Child pornography	19 [] NA [] NAP	30 [] NA [] NAP	29 [] NA [] NAP	20 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - Please explain what are the legal definitions of these categories of offences in your system: 2022 data on child sexual abuse differ from the data communicated for the previous period due to a change in the methodology used. For the previous period data did not include all criminal offences which are related to sexual abuse of minors.

Child pornography data on pending cases on 1 Jan. and pending cases older than 2 years do not differ meaningfully.

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 length of the entire procedure (in days)	% of cases pending for more than 3 years for all instances
Civil and commercial litigious cases	_____ Allow decimals : 2 12 [] NA [] NAP	217 [] NA [] NAP	134 [] NA [] NAP	180 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	_____ Allow decimals : 2 [X] NA [] NAP
Litigious divorce cases	_____ Allow decimals : 2 14 [] NA [] NAP	272 [] NA [] NAP	121 [] NA [] NAP	81 [] NA [] NAP	[X] NA [] NAP	_____ Allow decimals : 2 [X] NA [] NAP

Employment dismissal cases	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p>80</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>121</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>97</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>128</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>
Insolvency cases	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p>4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>729</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>41</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>
Robbery cases	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p>36</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>289</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>156</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>
Intentional homicide cases	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p>100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>331</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>160</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Allow decimals : 2</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NAP</p>

Comments Data on employment dismissal cases differ from the previous period due to a change in the methodology used. For the previous period data included all disputes between employer and employee, while for 2022 only disputes between parties about termination of an employment are taken into consideration.

The increase in the average length of robbery cases at first instance could be explained by the assumption that more complicated cases of robbery were brought to court. Less complicated cases are completed already at the prosecutor's office level.

The average length at 2nd instance increased due to two main reasons: improvement of statistical collection system, decrease in the number of judges in the largest appeal court. Data on % of decisions subject to appeal for litigious divorce cases, insolvency cases, robbery cases and intentional homicide cases can not be explained.

104. How is the length of proceedings calculated for the six case categories of question 102?

Please give a description of the calculation method.

. The first instance court average length of proceeding is calculated from the date the application for judicial review is lodged (for criminal cases) or review has been initiated in court (for civil and administrative cases) to the date the judgement is made. The average length of proceedings of Appeal court and Supreme court is calculated from the date the appeal is lodged in the court to the date the judgement is made.

4.2.6 Case flow management – public prosecution

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

- to conduct or supervise investigation
- 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): The 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. 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 Prosecution Office.

Comments

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

civil cases

administrative cases

insolvency cases

Comments - If yes, please specify:



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

	Number of cases
1. Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	623 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Incoming/received cases	10 787 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3. Processed cases (3.1+3.2+3.3+3.4)	10 498 <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.)	1 341 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1.1 Discontinued by the public prosecutor because the offender could not be identified	7 <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	47 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1.3 Discontinued by the public prosecutor for reasons of opportunity	566 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.1.4 Discontinued for other reasons	721 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.2. Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor	4 742 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3.3.Cases brought to court	4 415 [] NA [] NAP
4.Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year	556 [] NA [] NAP

Comments Information obtained from the ProIS (Prosecution Information System) data downloaded in February 2023. The same data is used in drawing up the Annual Report of the Prosecution Office submitted to the Parliament. The difference from the number of pending cases on 31 December previous period reported in last CEPEJ questionnaire may be explained that the ProIS is a 'living' system (input of data is not 'frozen' at the end of the year), therefore some cases may be marked in the system as 'pending' between August 2022 and February 2023. One of the reasons for the increase of the number in comparison with the year 2020 may be the structural reforms carried out in the prosecution office, as of 1 November 2021 first instance prosecution offices prosecute all types of criminal offences that were previously prosecuted by prosecution offices of the Judicial Regions. Thus, not only the number/numerical volume of 1st instance prosecutors' cases (criminal proceedings taken under supervision) increased, but also their legal complexity which has impacted the workload backlog. -107. 3.1. Discontinued during the reference year (3.1.1.-3.1.4.) In consistency with the decrease in total number of incoming/received cases, a decrease can also be observed in the number of all of the discontinued cases.

- 3.1.3. Discontinued by the public prosecutor for reasons of opportunity: includes discontinued on the basis of the following grounds set forth in Article 380 of the Criminal Procedure Law: termination of criminal proceedings on the basis of circumstances that exclude criminal proceedings (several subcategories listed in Article 377), termination of criminal proceedings by releasing a person from criminal liability (Parts 1 and 2 of Article 379), including conditional release from liability (Article 415), and termination of criminal proceedings against a person who has substantially assisted in the disclosure of a serious or especially serious crime.

The remaining reason of opportunity mentioned in Article 380, namely Article 421 'Prosecutor's penal order' – number of cases discontinued on this basis is included in 107.3.2.: Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor.

- 3.1.4. Discontinued for other reasons: includes 675 cases in which criminal proceedings were suspended, 5 cases where the criminal proceedings have been terminated by conditionally releasing from criminal liability for a serious crime, plus 41 case sent on the basis of the jurisdiction (including – abroad).

- 107. 3.2. Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor – the answer for the increase in number lies within the proposed strategic goal of the prosecution office – to complete the criminal proceedings in the prosecution office whenever possible. This has led to the significant increase in the total value of number in Q 107. 3.2. and decrease in numbers in Q 107. 3.3.

- 107. 4. Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year: explanation given for Q 107. 1.1. applies to this number as well.

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	1 334 [] 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: Data on public prosecutors are collected from the Prosecution Office. Data on courts are collected from Courts administration and Supreme Courts.

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?

- through a competitive exam (open competition)
- through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)
- other (please specify):

Comments

110-1. Please briefly describe the recruitment procedure(s) for judges in your country:

. A candidate for the position of judge of the first and second instance, who has been selected in an external competition, has obtained the highest number of points among the persons included in the list of candidates for the position of judge and has agreed to occupy the vacant position of judge, is nominated for appointment or confirmation by the Minister of Justice.

Judges of the first instance also take part in an external competition in order to continue their career in the court of the second instance. After a positive assessment by the selection commission, they are included in the general list of candidates for judges of the second instance.

1) The judge of the court of first instance shall be appointed by the Saeima (Parliament of Latvia) for three years on the proposal of the Minister of Justice. After three years in office, a judge is evaluated for professional performance. Based on the evaluation result, the Saeima can confirm the judge in the position without limitation of term of office or re-appoint him for a period of up to two years, or not. After the expiration of the repeated term of office, the judge of the district (city) court shall be confirmed by the Saeima, on the proposal of the Minister of Justice, in office without limitation of the term of office.

If the judge's professional performance is unsatisfactory, the Minister of Justice does not nominate the judge for re-appointment or confirmation.

2) The judge of the second instance shall be approved by the Saeima without limitation of term of office upon the proposal of the Minister of Justice.

3) The judge of the first instance is transferred to the court of the second instance by the Council of Justice

110-2. What are the recruitment requirements for judges (multiple replies possible)?

- Age
- Nationality
- Physical/Psychological capacity

- General studies in law
- Advanced studies in law (Master, PhD)
- Number of years of relevant experience
- Traineeship/judicial functions in courts
- Validation of a general state examination in law
- Validation of a specific examination for judges
- Clean criminal record
- Foreign languages
- Personal requirements (related to integrity)
- Other
- NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

110-3. In the frame of these recruitments, please indicate the number of applicants for the position of judge and the number of recruitments actually made during the reference year:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of applicants	60 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	18 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	42 <input type="checkbox"/> NA
Number of recruited persons	15 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	11 <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

110-4. If the number of applicants decreased in the last years did you take any remedial measures?

- Yes
- No

Comments

110-5. If yes, please specify what remedies you implemented:

- Increase of salary
- Other financial incentives
- Improving working conditions
- Workload reduction at the beginning of career
- Other adjustments in the frame of the induction of new judges
- Other

Comments: If "other", please, specify:

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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) responsible for the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of judges. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles: The selection of judge candidates is carried out by the selection commission approved by the Council of Justice. The commission consists of nine judges from all three instances.

Candidates who have not been judges are appointed by the Saeima (Parliament of Latvia).

Existing judges are transferred to a higher instance by the Council of Justice, which consists of judges, representatives of other legal professions, the Minister of Justice and the chairman of the Saeima Legal Commission.

111-1. How many members compose this authority?

	Total	Males	Females
Members	9	0	9
	<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 – Please specify what is the status of this authority and who is proposing/appointing its members:

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

- Yes
- No

Comments – Please specify the procedure to be followed, the competent authority, the moment for exercising the right of appeal: The applicant can only appeal the selection commission's refusal to admit to the next selection test or to be included in the list of candidates for the position of judge due to the selection violations committed during the selection process, which could have affected the selection result.

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

- Yes
- No

Comments - No, please specify which authority is competent for promoting judges The transfer of a judge to a higher instance court is carried out by the Council of Justice.

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

- Competitive test / Exam
- Previous individual evaluations
- Other procedure(s) (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) and how the publicity of promotion processes is ensured: In 2021, the procedure for the selection of judges was adopted, which stipulates that the judge of the 1st instance participates in an open competition for the position of a regional court judge together with the other persons who can apply for the position of a regional court judge. The only difference is that judges do not participate in all rounds (judges are evaluated for their professional and personal competences, psychological evaluation is performed and written answers to the questions determined by the commission are evaluated). The overall result is determined in points and the judge is included in the general list of candidates for the position of district court judge.

113-0. In the frame of the promotion procedures, please indicate the number of applicants and the number of promotions actually made during the reference year:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of applicants	29 [] NA	11 [] NA	18 [] NA
Number of promoted persons	10 [] NA	3 [] NA	7 [] NA

Comments

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"):

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 Prosecution Office, the Prosecution 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 Prosecution 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 Prosecution Office during the performance of the investigation of cases or other functions of the Prosecution Office. On the other hand, for attempts to illegally influence a prosecutor or to interfere with the activities of the Prosecution 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 Prosecution Office.

115-1. Are specific instructions addressed to a public prosecutor to prosecute or not prohibited by law or other regulation?

Yes

No

Comments - If yes, please specify: The exercise of the prosecutor's function is governed by the Law on the Prosecution Office, the Criminal Law, the Criminal Procedure Law, and other laws, as well as by regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers. According to the Law on the Prosecution Office, instructions and orders given by the Prosecutor General are compulsory for prosecutors, but prosecutors remain independent in their decision-making in adjudication of court cases. No other instructions or orders at any level can be given.

115-2. If they are prohibited by law or other regulation, are there exceptions?

Yes

No

NAP

Comments - Please describe these exceptions: Each prosecutor, when considering individual cases, makes his decisions independently and on his own, based on his beliefs and laws, observing the equality of individuals before the law and the courts, the presumption of innocence, truth, and lawfulness (Section 5, paragraph 1 of the Law on the Prosecution Office). A higher-ranking public prosecutor is entitled to take any case in his business, but he is not entitled to instruct the prosecutor to act against his convictions (Section 6, Paragraph 4 of the Law on Prosecution Office). The prosecutor acts independently of the influence of other authorities or officials exercising state authority and administration and shall observe only the rule of law. (Section 6, Paragraph 1 of the Law on Prosecution Office).

115-3. Which authority can issue such specific instructions?

General Prosecutor

Higher prosecutor/Head of prosecution office

Executive power

Other

NAP

Comments - If "Other", please specify:

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

Comments

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.

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116. How are public prosecutors recruited?

- through a competitive exam (open competition)
- through a recruitment procedure for experienced legal professionals (for example experienced lawyers)
- other (please specify):

Comments The selection takes place in an open competition, by checking the general legal knowledge of the person who wants to apply for the position of prosecutor (hereinafter referred to as the applicant) and the legal knowledge necessary to fulfill the duties of the position of prosecutor, evaluating the applicant's compliance with the requirements for a candidate for the position of prosecutor and the competences and skills required for the position of prosecutor. Selection is organized at least once a year.

116-1. Please briefly describe the recruitment procedure(s) for prosecutors in your country:

. The recruitment procedure of prosecutors is determined in the "Office of the prosecutor law", section 33.1 Selection of Candidates for the Office of a Prosecutor, part four "The procedures for performing the selection of candidates for the office of a prosecutor shall be determined in the By-laws of a Candidate for the Office of a Prosecutor." In 2022 was adopted new By-laws of a Candidate for the Office of a Prosecutor (available in Latvian https://www.prokuratūra.lv/media/Normativie_akti/pav%C4%93le_100_30.09_pielikums.pdf).

116-2. What are the recruitment requirements for prosecutors (multiple replies possible)?

- Age
- Nationality
- Physical/Psychological capacity
- General studies in law
- Advanced studies in law (Master, PhD)
- Number of years of relevant experience

- Traineeship/judicial functions in courts
- Validation of a general state examination in law
- Validation of a specific examination for prosecutors
- Clean criminal record
- Foreign languages
- Personal requirements (related to integrity)
- Other
- NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify:

116-3. In the frame of these recruitments, please indicate the number of applicants for the position of prosecutor and the number of recruitments actually made during the reference year:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of applicants	44 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
Number of recruited persons	12 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

116-4. If the number of applicants decreased in the last years did you take any remedial measures?

- Yes
- No

Comments

116-5. If yes, please specify what remedies you implemented:

- Increase of salary
- Other financial incentives
- Improving working conditions
- Workload reduction at the beginning of career
- Other adjustments in the frame of the induction of new prosecutors
- Other

Comments: If "other", please, specify:

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) responsible for the whole procedure of recruitment and nomination of public

prosecutors. If there are several authorities, please describe their respective roles: Two authorities that are composed of public prosecutors are responsible for recruitment of prosecutors: the Qualification Commission of Prosecutors and the Attestation Commission of Prosecutors.

The Qualification Commission of Prosecutors (in 2022 this commission was composed of 10 prosecutors – 4 men and 6 women) evaluates and gives an opinion regarding the implementation of the internship program of the candidate for the position of prosecutor. If the Qualification Commission of Prosecutors recognizes that the candidate for the position of prosecutor has fulfilled all tasks provided for in the internship program in sufficient quality, the candidate is admitted to the qualification exam, which consists of three cases studies (practical tasks). This exam is prepared and conducted by the Qualification Commission of Prosecutors. Before a candidate is appointed for the position of prosecutor, the Attestation Commission of Prosecutors (in 2022 this commission was composed of 10 prosecutors – 3 men and 7 women) provides an opinion on his or her suitability for this position. The Attestation Commission of Prosecutors evaluates the answers provided in the application forms by each candidate for the position of prosecutor and conducts interviews with candidates, evaluating their motivation, previous work and life experience. This commission is also responsible to evaluate applicants' compliance with the requirement of an impeccable reputation. From 2022, the organization of general and legal knowledge tests of the candidates for the position of prosecutor is assigned to the Personnel Division of the Administrative Director Service of the Prosecution Office.

117-1. How many members compose this authority?

	Total	Male	Female
Members	10 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments – Please specify what is the status of this authority and who is proposing/appointing its members: The table of question 117-1 indicates the total number and composition of the Qualification Commission of Prosecutors. The Attestation Commission of Prosecutors in 2022 was composed of 10 prosecutors – 3 men and 7 women.

The number and composition of the Qualification Commission of Prosecutors is established by the Prosecutor General's Council for a duration of one year. In accordance with the second part of Article 29.2 of the Law on the Prosecution Office the Qualification Commission of Prosecutors evaluates and gives an opinion regarding the implementation of the internship program of the candidate for the position of prosecutor, as well as regarding the suitability of the candidate for the position of prosecutor, the knowledge and professional skills of the prosecutor for the position of prosecutor.

The number and composition of the Attestation Commission of Prosecutors is established by the Prosecutor General's Council for a duration of one year. The Attestation Commission of Prosecutors is a self-governing body of prosecutors whose task, in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Prosecution Office, is to strengthen the professional independence of prosecutors and promote their professional development.

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

- Yes
- No

Comments – Please specify the procedure to be followed, the competent authority, the moment for exercising the right of appeal:

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

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

Comments From two authorities described in Q117 the Attestation Commission of Prosecutors is responsible for promotion of prosecutors.

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

- Competitive test / exam
- Previous individual evaluations

Other procedure(s) (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) and how the publicity of promotion processes is ensured:

119-1. In the frame of the promotion procedures, please indicate the number of applicants and the number of promotions actually made during the reference year:

	Total	Males	Females
Number of applicants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
Number of promoted persons	5 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Comments

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 dismissed from office early:

1) at his own will, at their own will, including if they have reached the old-age pension or length of service that entitles them to a retirement pension

2) due to his health condition,

3) due to election or appointment to another position;

4) if he received a negative opinion in the repeated assessment of the professional performance of the judge.

Before the deadline, the judge is removed:

1) if the judge has been convicted and the court verdict has entered into legal force;

2) based on the decision of the disciplinary board of judges.

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):

No

Comments

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 or 5 years

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):

No

Comments

125. If the mandate of 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 of 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
 [X] NAP

Comments

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

Sources: Data on prosecutors are collected from the Prosecutors Office. Data on judges are collected from Court Administration.

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)	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No	() Yes (X) No
General in-service training	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for specialised judicial functions (e.g. judge for economic or administrative issues)	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for management functions of the court (e.g. court president)	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
In-service training for the use of computer facilities in courts	() 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
In-service training on gender equality	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No
Other in- service training	() Yes (X) No	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) No

Comments

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

Frequency of the judges training

General in-service training	<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 specialised judicial functions (e.g. judge for economic or administrative issues)	<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 of the court (e.g. court president)	<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 courts	<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
In-service training on gender equality	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
Other in- service training	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed

Comments - Please indicate any information on the periodicity of the continuous training of judges: Qualification training on child-friendly justice should be planned every 5 years.

128-1. Do you have a minimum number of compulsory trainings per judge:

	Per judge
Initial compulsory training – minimum number of trainings	<hr/> Min numeric value allowed : 0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Initial compulsory training – minimum number of days	<hr/> Min numeric value allowed : 0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

In-service compulsory trainings – minimum number of trainings per year	_____ Min numeric value allowed : 0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
In-service compulsory trainings – minimum number of days per year	_____ Min numeric value allowed : 0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

5.2.2 Training of prosecutors

129. Types of different trainings offered to public prosecutors:

	Compulsory	Optional	No training proposed
Initial training	<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 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
In-service training for specialised functions (e.g. public prosecutors specialised in organised crime)	<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 (e.g. Head of prosecution office, manager)	<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 office	<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	<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
In-service training on child-friendly justice	<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
In-service training on gender equality	<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
Other 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

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input 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
In-service training on gender equality	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occasional (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/> No training proposed
Other in- service training	<input type="checkbox"/> Regularly (for example every year) <input checked="" 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:

130-1. Do you have a minimum number of compulsory trainings per prosecutor:

	Per prosecutor
Initial compulsory training – minimum number of trainings	_____ Min numeric value allowed : 0 15 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Initial compulsory training – minimum number of days	_____ Min numeric value allowed : 0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
In-service compulsory trainings – minimum number of trainings per year	_____ Min numeric value allowed : 0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

In-service compulsory trainings – minimum number of days per year	<hr/> Min numeric value allowed : 0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
--	---

Comments

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	[]	[]	[X]
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 Latvian Judicial Training Centre (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 implemented budget of such institution(s)?

	Implemented budget of the institution for the reference year, in €
Institution(s) for judges	354 272 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Institution(s) for prosecutors	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Institution(s) for both judges and prosecutors	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Compared to the previous reporting period, the increase in LJTC funding was related to the goal of providing training in the existing volume, taking into account the increase in utilities, IT maintenance costs and lecturers' remuneration. Additional expenses were also related to supplementing the curriculum with additional seminars, training events, training court employees and candidates for the position of judge.

131-1. If judges and/or prosecutors have no compulsory initial training in such institutions, please indicate briefly how 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 trainings available and delivered (in days) by the public institution(s) responsible for training.

	Number of different live (in person, hybrid, videoconference) trainings available	Number of live (in person, hybrid, videoconference) trainings delivered	Number of days of delivered live (in person, hybrid, videoconference) trainings	Number of internet-based trainings available on the e-learning platform of the training institution (not live)
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For judges	72 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	93 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For prosecutors	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	6 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For non-judge staff	24 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	30 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
For 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments Number of days of delivered live (in person, hybrid, videoconference) trainings - cannot be counted according to the methodology. (There is no data on length of training. There is data only about a date when the training happen.).

131-3. Number of participants in the trainings during the reference year.

	Number of participants in live (in-person, hybrid, videoconference) trainings	Number of participants in internet-based trainings provided on the e-learning platform of the training institution (not live)
Total	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Judges	1 608 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	18 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Prosecutors	45 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
Non-judge staff	742 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <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

Comments

E2. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Data on number of training and participants are collected from The Latvian Judicial Training Centre (LJTC).

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	36 948 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	29 826 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Judge of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court (please indicate the highest salary of a judge at this level, excluding the salary of the Court President)	57 712 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	40 047 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Public prosecutor at the beginning of his/her career	36 192 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	25 428 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP
Public prosecutor of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Instance (please indicate the highest salary of a public prosecutor at this level, excluding the salary of the Attorney General).	44 880 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	31 392 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comment – Please describe briefly how the salaries are determined during the career of a judge/prosecutor: Data on net annual salary, in EUR for first instance professional judges differs from previous period due the raise of gross annual salary.

133. Do judges and public prosecutors have additional benefits?

	Judges	Public prosecutors
Reduced taxation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Special pension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Other financial benefit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Comments

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

. According to the Law On Judicial Power, judges have the following additional benefits: allowance in case a judge has been injured in a serious accident, allowance in case of death of judge’s family member or a dependent person, allowance in case a judge is removed from office due to a reduction in the number of judges, life and health insurance.

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.

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
(X) 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 guidelines and/or opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of judges (e.g. involvement in political life, use of social media by judges, etc.)?

- (X) Yes
() No

Comment - Please specify: The Judges' Ethics Commission has been established, which is a collegial self-governing body of judges. Its main purpose is to provide opinions on the interpretation and violations of ethical norms, as well as to explain the ethical norms of judges.

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

- (X) Only judges
() Judges and other legal professionals
() Other, please specify:

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

- Yes
- No

Comments - Please describe the work of this institution / body, the frequency of the guidelines and/or opinions, etc.: Functions of the Judges' Ethics Commission: at the request of the person who has the right to initiate a disciplinary case, as well as at the request of the Judges' Disciplinary Board or the Disciplinary Court, to provide opinions on the interpretation of ethical norms and violations; on his own initiative or at the request of judges, to explain and analyze the norms of the Code of Ethics for Judges, as well as to advise judges on ethical issues of judges; to collect and prepare for publication findings and explanations on the interpretation and application of ethical norms; discuss violations of ethical norms; develop the norms of the Code of Ethics for Judges; to decide on the initiation of a disciplinary case against a judge in connection with a gross violation of the norms of the Code of Ethics of Judges.

138-2-1. How many guidelines and/or opinions were given during the reference year?

- [2]
- [] NA

Comments – Please specify what were the topics addressed in these guidelines and/or opinions - on compliance of the judge's actions with the Code of Ethics of Judges, when making a decision on recusal in several civil cases
- on whether the refusal of judges to present a vaccination or illness certificate (due to Covid 19) can be considered as a disrespectful act and whether this gives grounds to believe that the judges do not have an impeccable reputation

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

- Yes
- No

Comment: Please specify In 2022, first written explanation was prepared by the Attestation Commission of Prosecutors on the ethical issue following a request by the prosecutor to provide an explanation as to whether she did not violate the norms of the Code of Ethics of Latvian Prosecutors by visiting the European Parliament during her vacation outside the performance of official duties, at the invitation of a member of the European Parliament. All prosecutors have been informed about this explanation and it is also posted on the internal website of the Prosecution Office.

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

- Only prosecutors
- Prosecutors and other legal professionals
- Other, please specify:

Comments The Attestation Commission of Prosecutors is the institution giving guidelines and opinions on ethical questions of the conduct of prosecutors.

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

- Yes
- No

Comments - Please describe the work of this institution / body, the frequency of opinions, etc. 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 Attestation Commission of Prosecutors 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.

138-5-1. How many guidelines and/or opinions were given during the reference year?

[1]

[] NA

Comments – Please specify what were the topics addressed in these guidelines and/or opinions

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
- Ombudsman
- Parliament
- Executive power (please specify): Minister of Justice
- Other (please specify): Ethics Commission of Judges
- 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
- Ombudsman
- Professional body
- Executive power (please specify):
- Other (please specify):
- This is not possible

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 Disciplinary Board of Judges (the decision of the Disciplinary Board of Judges can be appealed to the Disciplinary Court).

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)	18 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1. Breach of professional ethics	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2. Professional inadequacy	1 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	0 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3. Criminal offence	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Other	8 [] NA [] NAP	3 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If “other”, please specify: 4 judges from district (city) and regional courts: for in the law "On the prevention of conflict of interest in the activities of public officials" provided for the restriction and-non-compliance with prohibitions; - for cases of intentional violation of the law would be grossly negligent in the consideration and handling of the case. 12 judges from Supreme court: 3 not appropriate behaviour (under the law is treated besides professional ethics) – these cases were regarding refusal to take Covid-19 vaccine which was obligatory for judges in Latvia; 1 breach of law which prohibits to enter in conflicts of interest. Prosecutors: the Attestation Commission of Prosecutors reviewed the possible violation of the law while performing official duties by the prosecutor, however after evaluation the violations were not confirmed.

Data on prosecutors - “other” the Attestation Commission of Prosecutors reviewed the possible violation of the law while performing official duties by the prosecutor, however after evaluation the violations were not confirmed.

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

	Judges	Prosecutors
Total number (total 1 to 10)	6 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
1. Reprimand	3 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
2. Suspension	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
4. Fine	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
5. Temporary reduction of salary	3 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
6. Position downgrade	[] NA [X] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
7. Transfer to another geographical (court) location	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
8. Resignation	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP
9. Other	0 [] NA [] NAP	0 [] NA [] NAP

10. Dismissal	0	0
	<input type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
	<input type="checkbox"/> NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> 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.

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

Sources: Data on judges are collected from Court administration and Supreme Court. Data on prosecutors are collected from Prosecutor 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	Males	Females
Number of lawyers	1 351 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	684 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	667 <input type="checkbox"/> 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:

[]

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: In criminal cases defense can only be conducted and legal aid can only be provided to the victim by a sworn advocate, an assistant of a sworn advocate, a citizen of a European Union Member State who has acquired the classification of an advocate in one of the Member States of the European Union or a foreign advocate in accordance with the international agreement regarding legal assistance binding on the Republic of Latvia. However, the victim does not always need a lawyer, besides there are also cases when the victim has a representative, who may not be a lawyer. 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 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
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 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 "other", please specify. In addition, for the categories selected please specify the types of cases concerned by this/these representation(s): Criminal proceedings: Without providing legal assistance 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 order shall certify the right of an advocate to participate in the criminal proceedings as a representative.

A legal person that has been recognised as a victim may be represented by natural persons in accordance with the authorisations specified in the Law, in accordance with the authorisations that have been specified in documents governing the activities of the legal person, on the grounds of a power of attorney issued specially for such purpose.

If harm has been caused to a minor person, the victim shall be represented by a mother, father, or guardian, one of the grandparents, 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, a representative of an authority protecting the rights of children, a representative of such non-governmental organisation that performs the function of protecting the rights of children.

If harm has been caused to a minor who stays in the Republic of Latvia without the presence of the persons referred to in Paragraph two of this Section, the victim may be represented by such person of legal age who during the time of stay in the Republic of Latvia is responsible for the minor.

If harm has been inflicted to a person who is subject to trusteeship due to mental or other health impairment, the victim shall be represented by his or her trustee, any of the persons referred to in Paragraph two of this Section, or a representative of such non-governmental organisation who carries out protection of the interests and rights of persons with mental impairments.

If harm has been inflicted to a person who due to physical or mental impairments has been recognised a victim without his or her consent, the victim shall be represented by any of his or her relatives.

A victim or the representative thereof may retain an advocate for the provision of legal assistance in order to fully enforce rights of such victim.

Administrative proceedings: In addition, for the categories selected please specify the types of cases concerned by this/these representation(s): In administrative cases the representative may be any natural person whose capacity to act has not been restricted by court or a legal person with the restrictions specified in Administrative Procedure Law. In administrative offence cases the representative may be anyone of legal age whose capacity to act has not been restricted. In administrative offence cases the representative can not be a civil society organisation or trade union.

Civil proceedings: Paragraph 5 of Section 82.1 states that cases of natural and legal persons regarding infringements and protection of industrial property rights, and the cases referred to in Paragraph one, Clause 3 of this Section in the cassation court may also be conducted with the intermediation of a professional patent attorney.

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 (please specify): administrator of insolvency proceedings

Comments

149-2. Professional lawyers may have the status of:

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

Comments In Latvia, there is no distinction between liberal lawyers, staff lawyers and in-house lawyers.

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: Data on lawyers are collected from Ministry of Justice. 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 of lawyer

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 The amount of the fee is not determined by laws or bar association (the exception is state-funded legal aid).

6.1.3 Quality standards and disciplinary procedures for lawyers

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): Ministry of Justice

Comments

159. Is it possible to file a complaint about:

- the performance of lawyers
- the amount of fees

Comments - Please specify: According to the Advocacy Law of the Republic of Latvia, in case of violations of the law and other regulatory enactments, the articles of association of the Latvian Collegium of Sworn Advocates, as well as violations of the instructions regulating the activity of sworn advocates and the norms of professional ethics of sworn advocates, the Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates may initiate disciplinary proceedings upon the proposal of a court or a prosecutor, as well as on the basis of the complaints of individuals or upon its own initiative, sending the case materials for examination to the Disciplinary Proceedings Commission. The Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates is entitled to explain to sworn advocates the wrongfulness of their conduct, without initiating disciplinary proceedings. In September 2007 The Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates established the Commission of ethics for lawyers.

160. Which authority is responsible for disciplinary procedures?

- a judge
- Ministry of Justice
- a professional authority
- other (please specify):

Comments The Disciplinary Commission is a professional authority, elected by the Collegium of Latvian Sworn Advocates and operating since 2004. In case of violations of the law and other regulatory enactments, the articles of association of the Latvian Collegium of Sworn Advocates, as well as violations of the instructions regulating the activity of sworn advocates and the norms of professional ethics of sworn advocates, the Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates may initiate disciplinary proceedings upon the proposal of a court or a prosecutor, as well as on the basis of the complaints of individuals or upon its own initiative, sending the case materials for examination to

the Disciplinary Proceedings Commission. The Latvian Council of Sworn Advocates is entitled to explain to sworn advocates the wrongfulness of their conduct, without initiating disciplinary proceedings.

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 [] NA [] NAP
1. Breach of professional ethics	3 [] NA [] NAP
2. Professional inadequacy	1 [] NA [] NAP
3. Criminal offence	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Other	11 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify: "other" - misconduct

162. Sanctions pronounced against lawyers.

	Number of sanctions
Total number of sanctions (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)	15 [] NA [] NAP
1. Reprimand	11 [] NA [] NAP
2. Suspension	1 [] NA [] NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Fine	0 [] NA [] NAP
5. Other	3 [] 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. Three decisions of the ethics commission, which are not publicly available.

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?

Yes

No

Comments

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:

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 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
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

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: Project “State co-financed family mediation” provided support for families to solve their disputes affecting children. 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.

=

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

	Total	Males	Females
Number of mediators	48 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	4 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	44 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments

166-1. Could you please describe what are the requirements and what is the procedure to become an accredited or registered mediator in your country (educational requirements, working experiences, accrediting procedure etc.)?

. According to Mediation Law a certified mediator may be a natural person who: has reached 25 years of age; has an impeccable reputation; has acquired an education document attesting a State recognised higher education; have knowledge of the official language at the highest level; has attended a mediator's training course; has obtained a mediator's certificate. A certification examination of a mediator and an attestation examination of a certified mediator shall be organised by the Council of Certified 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 + 7)	<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
1. Civil and commercial 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
2. Family 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

3. Administrative 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
4. Labour cases including employment dismissal 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
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
7. Other 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:

=

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 Out-of-court dispute resolution mechanisms are working well in several areas. For example, Consumer Dispute Resolution Commission deals with disputes between consumer and seller or service provider. The Industrial Property Board of Appeal examines extrajudicial disputes arising from registration and post-registration procedures of industrial property, also at granting a patent; firstly, the Board of Appeal endeavors to reconcile the parties in a matter of opposition.

G1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Source: Data source: Council of Certified Mediators.

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)	92 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	29 <input type="checkbox"/> NA	63 <input type="checkbox"/> NA

1. Private professionals under the authority (control) of public authorities	92 [] NA [] NAP	29 [] NA [] NAP	63 [] NA [] NAP
2. Enforcement agents working in a public institution (civil servants paid by state)	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP	[] NA [X] NAP
3. Judges	[] 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 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: 65
- No, please specify the duration of the appointment:

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

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	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Motor vehicle	(X) Yes () No	(X) Yes () No
Movable property	(X) Yes () No	() Yes (X) 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	<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 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

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: Regulations on fees for the office of sworn bailiffs (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/250209-noteikumi-par-zverinatu-tiesu-izpilditaju-amata-atlidzibas-taksem>)

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): Council of Latvian Sworn Bailiff

Comments Council of Latvian Sworn Bailiff

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 The Civil Procedure Law provides for that 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 a person has been notified regarding the content of the judicial documents (1) on the date when the addressee has accepted them, (2) on the seventh day from the day of sending, if the documents have been sent by mail; or (3) on the third day from the day of sending, if the documents have been sent by electronic mail. Thereby, the maximal timeframe to notify the decision to the parties is 1 day (if the parties have attended the court sitting and choose to receive the decision in person upon signature), 6 days (if the decision has been sent by electronic mail (3days + 3 days)) or 10 days (if the decision has been sent by mail (3 days + 7 days)).

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)	10 [] NA [] NAP
1. For breach of professional ethics	2 [] NA [] NAP
2. For professional inadequacy	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. For criminal offence	[] NA [X] NAP
4. Other	8 [] NA [] NAP

Comments - If "other", please specify: Disciplinary proceeding cannot be initiated for criminal offence. According to Law on Bailiffs disciplinary proceedings against enforcement agents may be initiated regarding significant violation of laws and other regulations, which has caused damage to the interests of the State or private individuals as well as violation of the articles of association of the Collegium of Latvian Sworn Bailiffs, violation of the norms of the professional ethics or violation of other internal laws and regulations related with the activities of sworn bailiffs. For objective reasons, the number of disciplinary proceedings initiated may vary from year to year.

188. Number of sanctions pronounced against enforcement agents:

	Number of sanctions pronounced
Total number of sanctions (1+2+3+4+5)	6 [] NA [] NAP
1. Reprimand	3 [] NA [] NAP
2. Suspension	0 [] NA [] NAP
3. Withdrawal from cases	0 [] NA [] NAP
4. Fine	1 [] NA [] NAP
5. Other	2 [] 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: "Other": no disciplinary action was taken. The decision was sent to the Council of Latvian Bailiffs to explain to the sworn bailiff the wrongness of his actions.

H1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Source: Data provided by the Judicial System Monitoring Department.

8.2.Execution of decisions in criminal matters

8.2.1Functioning 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).

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 2022) - 5841

Fulfilled enforcement cases – 4270 (73.1%)

9.Notaries

9.1.Profession of notary

9.1.1Number, status and mandate of notaries

192. Number and status of notaries in your country.

	Total	Males	Females
TOTAL (1+2+3+4)	106 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	17 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	89 <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	106 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	17 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	89 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

3.Civil servants (paid by the 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
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 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):

Comments Sworn notaries can be citizens of the European Union Member States who have reached 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).

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:

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

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, but not exclusively performed by notaries <input 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 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

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.

Upon request of the interested person a sworn notary shall issue a certificate regarding the issued notarial deed of enforcement referred to in Article 60 of Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council No 1215/2012 of 12 December 2012 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgements in civil and commercial matters (hereinafter - Regulation No 1215/2012) (Annex II to Regulation No 1215/2012).

Upon request of the interested person a sworn notary shall, on the basis of Regulation No 4/2009 and Article 48(3) thereof, write out a

notarial deed extract regarding the issued notarial deed of enforcement regarding the agreement on one-time or regular maintenance payments.

Upon request of the creditor a sworn notary shall, on the basis of Regulation (EC) No 805/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 creating a European Enforcement Order for uncontested claims (hereinafter - Regulation No 805/2005) and Article 25(1) thereof, write out a European Enforcement Order regarding the issued notarial deeds of enforcement (Annex III to Regulation No 805/2004).

A sworn notary who has made the notarial deed of enforcement may rectify errors in the European Enforcement Order or withdraw a European Enforcement Order upon request of the interested party on the basis of Article 10 of Regulation No 805/2004. Upon submitting a request for the rectification or withdrawal of a European Enforcement Order the standard form referred to in Article 10(3) of Regulation No 805/2004 shall be used (Annex VI of Regulation No 805/2004).

194-2. In which areas of law do notaries perform their activities (multiple replies possible)?

- Real estate transaction
- Family law
- Succession law
- Company law
- Legality control of gambling activities
- Protection of vulnerable persons
- Other

Comments Legalisation of public document issued in Latvia with apostille; insolvency law; obligations law; issuance of instruments of electronic identification of natural persons.

Under the Civil Code and other laws just some transactions must be authenticated by a notary, for instance public testaments, inheritance contracts and marriage contracts. In another cases, persons may freely choose the form of the transaction, for example a contract for the sale of immovable property is not necessary a public deed.

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 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: Inheritance Register, Public Will Register, Register of Authorisations Certified by Sworn Notaries, Revoked Authorization Register, Future Authorization Register, Register of Divorce Matters, E-apostille Register.

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 [] NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP
Business registry	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP
Civil status/ Population registry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP
Succession / Family law registry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP
Any other registry (please specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No [] NAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No [] 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

=

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 Other public authority - The National Archives of Latvia

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: traditional courses, e-learning, webinar – organized by the Council of Sworn Notaries.

I1. Please indicate the sources for answering the questions in this part

Sources: Ministry of Justice

10. Judicial experts

10.1. Profession of judicial expert

10.1.1 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?):

202-1-2. Are these lists publicly available?

- Yes, available on the internet
- Yes
- No

Comments

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:

202-3. Is the registration of judicial experts limited in time?

- Yes, for how long Registration 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Continuous training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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	Males	Females

Number of experts	304 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	128 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP	176 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
--------------------------	--	--	--

Comments

206-1. Number of cases where an expert opinion was ordered by a judge or requested by the parties

	Number of cases
Total (1+2+3+4)	463 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
1.Civil and commercial litigious cases	266 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
2.Administrative cases	7 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
3.Criminal cases	187 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP
4.Other cases	3 <input type="checkbox"/> NA <input type="checkbox"/> NAP

Comments The number of cases in which the court has made decision on conducting an expert examination during the reference period.

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	<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
Defined by the court/judge	<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
Defined by the Ministry of Justice or another ministry (setting a tariff for example)	<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
Salary of public official (in case of forensic or another specialist – who is public employee)	<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
Freely agreed between expert and the parties	<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
Other	<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 - 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: Law of Forensic Experts, Criminal Procedure Law, Civil Procedure Law, Administrative Procedure Law, Law on Administrative Liability, Register of forensic experts (<https://eksperti.ta.gov.lv/en>)

11.Reforms in judiciary

11.1.Foreseen reforms

11.1.1Reforms

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: Riga City Court reform - on August 1st, 2022, Riga City Pardaugava Court and Riga City Latgale District Court were reorganised, adding them to Riga City Vidzeme suburb court, while changing the name of the court to Riga City Court. Latgale Judicial Reform was implemented on 1st July 2023, where court of Daugavpils was added to court of Rezekne, while changing the name of court to Latgale District Court. The nature of the reform: within a single judicial area, multiple judicial areas are merged, legally creating a larger court. In this new area, the Court continues to operate in all existing courts, ensuring that citizens have access to justice. By bringing together the courts of the city of Riga, it is possible to align the scope of the cases to be held between the courts, which occurred due to the extent of the cases to which each court has jurisdiction and the nature of the cases, which in turn are related to the area of the court. As a result of the reorganization of courts of the city of Riga and courts of Latgale region, a unified work organization model will be introduced, which will gradually promote equalization of the number of received and reviewed cases with a judge, as well as greater opportunities for the specialization of judges and the rational use of judges' capacity and other court resources. Riga City Courts Reform and Latgale District Court reform are one of the steps in relation to the judicial territorial reform launched in 2015. The reform has a great impact on improving the efficiency of the courts. The merging of the justice sectors has made important investments for citizens and the justice system. The main advantages for society include shorter litigation periods, more qualitative judgments, and more opportunities for impartial judicial proceedings. As a result of the reform, Latvian courts have become more accessible, making it possible for citizens to submit documents in multiple locations – in any of the new jurisdictions. In 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted Plan of the reform of forensic expertise institution system. Reform will be implemented in two stages. The first stage: preparing. Maintained the existing institutional system of forensic expert institutions and taken to promote and prepare the reform: •Adjust the regulatory framework; •To prepare the infrastructure; •To unify legal status of the experts (convert the vacant positions of forensic experts into positions without special service ranks); •Developed criteria for the transformation period (to guarantee the principle of legitimate expectations) etc. The second stage: reorganization (merging): Adding the Forensic Service Department of the State Police to the State Forensic Science Bureau by the end of 2025. In 2022, in line with the adopted Plan of the reform of forensic expertise institution system, actions have been taken to ensure the implementation of the unified forensic authority plan implementation in accordance with the tasks and deadlines contained therein.

208-2. Budget

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify:

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 Academy. 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. On December 1, 2021, the e-case platform started its work. The full implementation of the E-case is expected by 31st May of 2026. E-case platform ensures the exchange of data between the main operational information systems (Court Information System, Prosecution Information System "ProIS", Prison Administration Information System "IIS" and State Probation Service Information System "Plus"). Also, the e-case portal was launched, which provides process participants with the opportunity to communicate with institutions and access to case materials. In order to ensure a legal basis for institutions to realize processes in an electronic environment, amendments to the procedural laws have entered into force, but the operation of the e-case platform is regulated by a separate law. In the next stage of E-case implementation, we plan to expand the range of co-operation institutions, and integrating their information systems, using the shared solutions. Digitalization of the judiciary will be continued within Recovery and Resilience Facility. The improvement of the Court Information System and the e-case platform has already been started, developing the universal interface which will allow to submit documents in civil and administrative proceedings electronically faster. E-case also gives a chance to find the solution for the digitalization of enforcement documents issued by the court thereby modernizing the circulation of enforcement documents between the court, the creditor, and the sworn bailiff. Within e-case it is planned to create new e-solutions, for example an application for videoconference to participate in the court session on the e-case portal and the development of new forms of various applications to be submitted to the court. As part of the continuation of the reforms of the prosecution office structure, in 2022, the Prosecution office specialized in organized crime and other sectors was reorganized. As of January 1, 2023, this structural unit of the prosecution office is integrated into the Riga judicial region prosecution office. The basis of this decision was the need to ensure an even workload of prosecutors in the territory of the Riga judicial region. More than half of the district level prosecutors fulfil their professional duties in Riga, which is natural, considering the level and specifics of crime in the territory of the Riga judicial region compared to the level and specifics of crime in other regions of Latvia. The district-level prosecutors carry out investigation supervision in all types of criminal proceedings, regardless of their severity and complexity, while regional level prosecutors in all criminal proceedings in the territory of the relevant region ensure the implementation of the functions of a higher-ranking prosecutor for both district-level prosecution offices and specialized prosecution offices.

The competence of the specialized prosecution office for organized crime and other sectors, considering its specialization and the phenomenon of organized crime in the form it existed at the time of the creation of this structural unit – back in the 90s – has lost its relevance in today's manifestations of crime. For example, in the foreseeable past, criminal proceedings initiated under the criminal offense provided for in Article 195 of the Criminal Law – money laundering – was a relatively new type of crime, whose investigative supervision was the responsibility of the Prosecution Office specialized in Organized Crime and other sectors. Now the supervision of the investigation of such criminal offenses must be effectively and qualitatively implemented by the majority of all prosecutors in the country. Because of the factors mentioned above it was an objective necessity to involve the team of 26 prosecutors of the Prosecution Office specialized in Organized Crime and other sectors in effective and high-quality investigation supervision, prosecution and trial of all criminal proceedings initiated in the Riga judicial region.

In 2022 several significant improvements have been made to perform the functions of the Prosecution Office as efficiently as possible. In order to improve the management of the Administrative Director Service, an analysis of the functions of the Administrative Director Service was carried out in 2022, as a result of which structural changes were proposed and a new regulation of the Administrative Director Service was adopted. This regulation defines the functions, tasks, structure, and work organization of the Administrative Director Service. The mechanism for planning and monitoring the performance of the functions of the Administrative Director Service has been improved, introducing a new approach to the development of the work plan of the Administrative Director Service and the monitoring of work results.

In 2022 the evaluation of the possibilities to apply the principles of ISO standards (quality management system, risk management) for the needs of the Prosecution Office to develop and implement the quality management system. As a result of the evaluation, proposals were developed (1) to apply the principles of quality management described in ISO standard 3 in relation to the management and support functions of the Prosecution Office; (2) implement the process approach described in the ISO standard (regarding the management and support functions of the Prosecution Office), by performing interrelated activities, the most important of which can be mentioned - the development of the process register (determining the interaction of processes); development of process management methodology; development of the quality management system manual; development of process descriptions/process schemes (simultaneously updating

and/or developing internal regulations); development of the methodology of quality audits of the quality management system processes (determining in what way the execution of the processes will be monitored and improved). The implementation of the process approach would provide an opportunity to control the management and support processes of the Prosecution Office and ensure their mutual interaction. It would also promote a common understanding of the requirements set for the execution of processes and their consistency. The implementation of the quality management system will be planned, gradually performing interconnected activities for the implementation of the process approach which will be a long-term process until 2027.

On August 1, 2022, the adaptation of the premises in Limbazi, Csu street 28, for to the needs of the Vidzeme district prosecution office was finalized and the transfer of this structural unit to the new premises took place. It should be noted that this project is special in that the Prosecution Office cooperates with the State Probation Service and part of the common space is used by both the Prosecution Office and the State Probation Service.

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 – On December 1, 2021, the e-case platform and its sharing solution - the e-case portal - started operating. The E-Case Public Portal is a common public point of access to data and services related to court proceedings. The planned users of the E-Case Public Portal are case participants, including solicitors, experts and representatives of the institutions defending public or state interests, State Probation Service clients, probation employers, as well as prison inmates and their relatives. (See more about the e-case in the third question).

208-5. High Judicial Council (competent for judges and/or prosecutors)

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: It is planned to enhance the role of the Judicial Council in strengthening the independence of the judiciary.

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 Academy. 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.

208-7. Gender equality

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: Ministry of Justice in cooperation with other institutions are working on a juvenile reform to change the policy. I.e., up until this point there has been not enough of attention paid to the reasons of children committing the offences, instead focusing on penalties. The idea is to pay more attention to the reasonings behind the offences and work with the minor to exclude the possible recidivism in the future.

Special arrangements for minors during judicial proceedings – introduction of an interagency/multidisciplinary structure such as “Children's House”.

Reform regarding regulation of joint ownership rights.

Yes (adopted) – amendments to the Civil Law regarding to joint ownership rights have entered into force. Amendments were prepared 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. Adopted amendments determines a restriction to request division of the joint property earlier than five years from the date of corroboration of ownership rights in the Land Register of the deemed shares in immovable property with residential premises in it. Amendments also allows the majority of the joint owners, according to the size of shares of a joint owner, to request the alienation of the share held by a joint owner who in the joint property, in exercising his rights with malicious intent or failing to fulfil his obligations as a respectable and careful owner, causes significant harm to other joint owners or third parties.

Reviewing regulation of the bill of exchange.

Yes (adopted) – amendments to the Law of the Bill of Exchange have entered into force, providing various measures to prevent the possibility to use promissory notes for probably illegal activities to defraud an immobile property and money from individuals, including moving from issuing a promissory note as a private document to the public document, if the responsible person, based on the promissory note, is natural person.

Reform regarding Inheritance Law.

Yes (planned) – the drafting of several laws are currently being considered by the Cabinet of Ministers (Government of the State of Latvia).

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.

In accordance with the judgment of the Constitutional Court, where Court recognise Section 50.4 of the Sentence Execution Code of Latvia, insofar the differential treatment of convicted men established in it lacks objective and reasonable grounds, as being incompatible with Article 91 of the Satversme of the Republic of Latvia and void as of 1 May 2021, by equating the set amount of rights for convicts in closed and semi-closed prisons, the meaning of the semi-closed prison as a stage of the system of progressive execution of punishment has been lost. Therefore, amendments to the Sentence Execution Code have been developed, which provide the transition from three-type prison system (closed prison, semi-closed prison and open prison) to a two-type prison system (closed prison and open prison) for adults.

The movement of the convict in the system of two types of prisons requires less administrative resources to ensure the progressive execution of the sentence, and the transition to the system of two type prisons is positively evaluated from the point of view of the progressive execution of the sentence of deprivation of liberty and the achievement of the goal, because the convicted person quickly reaches the stage of the punishment regime where is possible more intensive involvement in resocialization measures and from which conditional early release from serving a sentence is possible. It is planned that the mentioned amendments will enter into force at the beginning of 2024.

The Ministry of Justice is working on the development of a new draft law "Criminal Penalty Execution Law", which will replace the currently valid "Sentence Execution Code of Latvia". The purpose of the mentioned draft law is to ensure effective and human rights-compliant execution of criminal punishments.

Currently, the opinions provided by state institutions are being collected, meetings with representatives of state institutions are scheduled to ratify Convention 108 +

Convention for the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data.

On 13 April 2022, the European Commission presented a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of geographical indications of craft and industrial products and amending Regulations (EU) 2017/1001 and (EU) 2019/1753 and Council Decision (EU) 2019/17541. Following the adoption of the regulation by the European Parliament, the Ministry of Justice will start work on amending national legislation.

On 28 November 2022, the European Commission presented two new legislative proposals on design protection:

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 6/2002 on Community designs and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 2246/2002;

- a proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the legal protection of designs (recast).

Comparing to the proposal for a Directive, which will require changes of Latvian national laws, the proposal for a Regulation will provide for a procedure whereby EU designs will be administered by the EUIPO, so there are no changes to Latvian national law in the first place.

On 27 April 2023, the European Commission (EC) presented six new legislative proposals on the protection of patent rights:

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on standard essential patents and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/1001];

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on compulsory crisis management licensing and amending Regulation (EC) No 816/2006;

- Proposal for a Regulation on the unitary supplementary protection certificate for plant protection products; - Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Supplementary Protection Certificate for plant protection products (recast); - Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a single supplementary certificate for medicinal products;

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the supplementary protection certificate for medicinal products (recast).

The proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on standard essential patents and amending Regulation (EU)2017/1001 (the "SEP Regulation") is currently starting to be examined in the EU Council Working Party on Intellectual Property Rights.

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 enforceability of mediated agreements in order to promote the wider use of mediation. Also there is a debate about mandatory pre-trial consultation on the usefulness of mediation in family disputes.

208-11. Fight against crime

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: 2022 has been significant for the Prosecution Office as it was the first year when we started implementing the goals set in the Strategy of the Office of the Prosecutor's Office for the period from 2022 to 2027 (available in English at: <https://prokuratura.lv/en/par-mums/prokuraturas-darbibas-strategija>). Many improvements have taken place in order to implement the goals and achievable results set in the strategy and to implement our vision of the Prosecution Office as an independent, professional, efficient and modern judicial institution that serves the public. One of the goals of the Strategy is to ensure that, in the majority of cases where it is useful and justified, a fair settlement of criminal legal relations is achieved in the Prosecution office, thus saving the resources of both the court and the Prosecution Office during the trial. The number of criminal proceedings completed in the Prosecution Office with the application of the prosecutor's penal order has significantly increased, thus ensuring that more time is devoted to the supervision, prosecution, and trial of such criminal proceedings, which objectively require more time-consuming intellectual investment. One of important goals of the Strategy of the Prosecution Office is ensure that criminal proceedings that are not complex would be completed more often in the Prosecution Office, without transferring the case to the court, which would allow resources to be concentrated on the supervision of the investigation and completion of criminal proceedings of more complex criminal offenses. This was achieved by adopting and implementing guidelines for the application of simplified methods of completion of criminal proceedings.

208-12. Prison system

Yes (planned)

Yes (adopted)

Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: 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. On 9 March 2023, The Latvian Prison Administration has signed a contract with "Pillar Contractor" Ltd. for the construction of the new Training Centre in Olaine for those employed in prisons. The construction of the new Training Centre is planned to be completed in the first half of 2024. The Training Centre construction is being implemented within the framework of the Latvian Prison Administration project "Establishment of Training centre infrastructure and model prison blocks for training opportunities in the Olaine prison territory" No. 1-6.4/2-2019 with the Norway Grants financial support. This project plays an important role in the Latvian penitentiary system reform process. The new Training Centre in the Olaine Prison territory is a step forward in ensuring modern and effective sentences execution in Latvia.

On 22 November 2022, SIA "Tiesu namu aentra" (Court House Agency) and the winner of the procurement SIA "Citrus Solutions" signed a contract on designing, author's supervision and construction works of a new prison complex in Liepja. It is planned to complete the construction of the new prison within a period of 34 months (till the end of 2025). The new prison has a capacity of 1,200 prisoners (adult males) and will have all incarceration regimes, incl. a remand prison unit and open prison unit. After the commencement of the operation of the new prison, several prisons in the most critical condition will be closed.

208-13. Child friendly justice

- Yes (planned)
- Yes (adopted)
- Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
- No
- NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Project “Support for the Implementation of Barnahus in Latvia” has been continued to be implemented. 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.

208-14. Domestic violence

- Yes (planned)
- Yes (adopted)
- Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)
- No
- NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: A plan for preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence 2024-2029 is being developed. Amendments to the Criminal Law have just been adopted, which provide strengthening of the criminal liability for such crimes as threatening to commit murder and to inflict serious bodily injury, persecution and failure to comply with a ruling on the protection against violence. Amendments have just been adopted also in the Law on Criminal Procedure providing that a criminal trial for a criminal offense related to violence or the threat of violence committed by a person on whom the minor victim is materially or otherwise dependent, or committed by a relative of the victim, a former spouse or a person with whom the victim is or has been in a permanent intimate relationship, has an advantage in ensuring a reasonable term compared to other criminal proceedings. The trial of criminal cases for these offences shall be started no later than within four weeks of its receipt. Further amendments to the relevant law are being discussed.

Currently there are ongoing discussions among specialists on improving the regulation of provisional protection against violence. The additional protection aspects of the victim of violence have been evaluated.

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: Digital Court Solutions – See more about the e-case in the third question.

208-16. Other

- Yes (planned)
- Yes (adopted)
- Yes (implemented during year of reference +1)

No

NA

Comments - If yes, please specify: Plan of the reform of forensic expertise institution system – See more about it in the first question.