COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

LANZAROTE COMMITTEE

Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse

Replies to the thematic questionnaire

"Screening of professionals, volunteers and other persons in contact with children"

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Replies received by the Secretariat on 30 July 2026

Main relevant provisions of the Lanzarote Convention and previous recommendations

Article 5 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures, in conformity with their internal law, to ensure that the conditions to accede to those professions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children ensure that the candidates to these professions have not been convicted of acts of sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of children. The Explanatory Report to the Lanzarote Convention indicates that this obligation can be also applied to voluntary activities (see paragraph 57).

In the 2nd implementation report of the 1st monitoring round (2018), the Lanzarote Committee urged those Parties that limited mandatory screening to certain professionals to extend it to the recruitment of all professionals (public or private) in regular contact with children (R19) and invited Parties to encourage continuous screening of all professionals (R20) and volunteers (R21) in regular contact with children.

Article 27 paragraph 3.b of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to deny the perpetrator, temporarily or permanently, the exercise of professional or voluntary activity involving contact with children in the course of which the offence was committed.

Article 37 paragraph 3 of the Lanzarote Convention requires Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the information referred to in paragraph 1 (i.e. data related to the identity and to the genetic profile (DNA) of persons convicted of the offences established in accordance with the Convention) can be transmitted to the competent authority of another Party, in conformity with the conditions established in its internal law and the relevant international instruments.

Whenever the term “screening” is used in this questionnaire, this should be understood as “verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children”.

In all your answers, please provide details to the extent possible and refer to specific laws, policies, programmes, measures, etc.

Please describe the legislation, policy and practice which are in force on 27 March 2026 or are in the process of adoption (in this case, please specify the planned date of entry into force).

Please indicate:

a. **State Party in respect of which the questionnaire is submitted**
   Slovak Republic

b. **Entities and bodies which have been involved in responding to this questionnaire**
   Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, and Family of the Slovak Republic
   Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic
   Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic
   Ministry of Education, Research, Development, and Youth of the Slovak Republic
   Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic
   Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic
   Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Slovak Republic
   General Prosecutor’s Office of the Slovak Republic

Persons concerned by screening requirements

1. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required as a pre-condition in order to accede to professions, employment or volunteer positions whose exercise implies regular contacts with children? Please specify whether such restrictions apply to professions, employment or volunteer positions in the following sectors or areas of activities (additional details to be inserted below the table):

	Criminal conviction check for employment in public sector?	Criminal conviction check for voluntary activity?	Criminal conviction check for employment in private sector?	Criminal conviction check for self-employed professionals?	Please specify the professionals to whom this requirement applies
Education – Pre-school	Yes According to Section 9(1)(b) of Act No. 318/2019 Coll. on Teaching and Professional Staff and on Amendments to Certain Acts, a clean criminal record is a requirement for performing work duties.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Section 19 of Act No. 138/2019 lists the categories of teaching staff; see also Sections 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 26 a and 27. § 19 Educational staff members perform their duties in the following categories: a) teacher, b) vocational training instructor, c) counsellor, d) tutor, e) school coach, f) teaching assistant, g) foreign language instructor, h) special education teacher, i) school digital coordinator, j) professional development teacher, k) teaching staff candidate. § 20-Categories of teaching staff responsible for implementing the school curriculum, the educational program, or for

					providing education at a social welfare facility § 21-Categories of teaching staff involved in implementing the school curriculum or educational program § 22-Teacher of Professional Development § 23-Categories of Professional Staff § 24- Psychologist and School Psychologist § 25-Special Education Teacher and Field Special Education Teacher § 26-Career Counsellor § 26a-Speech-Language Pathologist and School Speech-Language Pathologist § 27-Other Categories of Professional Staff
Education – Primary	Yes According to Section 9(1)(b) of Act No. 318/2019 Coll. on Teaching and Professional Staff and on Amendments to Certain Acts, a clean criminal record is a requirement for performing work duties.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Same as in the category above
Education – Secondary	Yes According to Section 9(1)(b) of Act No. 318/2019 Coll. on Teaching and Professional Staff and on Amendments to Certain Acts, a clean criminal record is a	Yes	Yes	Yes	Same as in the category above

	requirement for performing work duties.				
Education – Tertiary	Yes According to Section 9(1)(b) of Act No. 318/2019 Coll. on Teaching and Professional Staff and on Amendments to Certain Acts, a clean criminal record is a requirement for performing work duties.	No	Not always	No	Only when working with children
Education – Extracurricular (e.g. language schools)	Yes According to Section 9(1)(b) of Act No. 318/2019 Coll. on Teaching and Professional Staff and on Amendments to Certain Acts, a clean criminal record is a requirement for performing work duties.	Often yes	Often yes	Yes	Leaders and those who work with children
Childcare (e.g. kindergartens, crèches, childminders	Yes According to Section 9(1)(b) of Act No. 318/2019 Coll. on Teaching and Professional Staff and on Amendments to Certain Acts, a clean criminal record is a requirement for performing work duties.	A volunteer may perform activities in social services in accordance with Section 15(4) of the Social Services Act. The Act does	Yes, when registering a private provider or a legal entity established by a public authority, the clean criminal record of the relevant	Yes, if an individual applies for registration and/or provides a service in their own name, their criminal record and professional competence are verified.	The person applying for registration, a statutory representative, or the person responsible for providing the service. In practice, this also includes a childcare provider as a person who has direct contact with children, if required by the employer or internal rules.

	Ministry of Social Affairs: Yes, when registering a public provider or a legal entity established by a public authority, the clean criminal record of the relevant persons is verified in accordance with Sections 63 and 64 of Act No. 448/2008 Coll. on Social Services. The Act on Social Services does not establish a specific, uniform verification requirement for all employees.	not expressly provide for a general obligation to screen volunteers. Internal screening is recommended when there is regular contact with children.	persons is verified in accordance with Sections 63 and 64 of Act No. 448/2008 Coll. on Social Services. The Social Services Act does not establish a specific, uniform verification requirement for all employees.		
Institutional or residential care (e.g. foster homes, orphanages, closed residential facilities)	Yes All employees of state Centers for Children and Families—children's homes—(teaching, non-teaching, specialized, operational, outpatient, field workers) pursuant to Act No. 552/2003 Coll. on the Performance of Work in the Public Interest, and professional foster parents pursuant to Act	Yes But also state Centers for Children and Families—children's homes and accredited entities do not provide care based on a volunteer agreement.	Yes All employees of state Centers for Children and Families—children's homes—(teaching, non-teaching, specialized, operational, outpatient, field workers) pursuant to Act	Does not apply	All employees

	No. 376/2022 on Professional Foster Parents.		No. 305/2005 Coll. on the Social and Legal Protection of Children and on Social Guardianship, and professional foster parents pursuant to Act No. 376/2022 Coll. on Professional Foster Parents.		
Detention	Yes	It is not a typical volunteer arrangement	Yes	No	Teaching, professional, and other staff Ministry of Justice: With regard to the Prison and Judicial Guard Corps: Admission to civil service is contingent upon having a clean criminal record and being trustworthy (Section 14(1) of Act No. 73/1998 Coll. on the Civil Service of Members of the Police Force, the Slovak Information Service, the Corps of Prison and Judicial Guards of the Slovak Republic, and the Railway Police). The Corps of Prison and Judicial Guards performs tasks related to the execution of pretrial detention and the enforcement of sentences (Section 1 of Act No. 4/2001 Coll. on the Corps of Prison and Judicial Guards) and also includes a juvenile correctional

					facility (Section 2(1) of Act No. 4/2001 Coll. on the Corps of Prison and Judicial Guards).
Migration facilities (e.g. reception centres)	Yes, when working with children	No	Yes	No	Employees in contact with children
Sport	Not in general	Not in general	Not in general	Not in general	
	According to Section 7 of Act No. 440/2015 Coll. on Sports, a clean criminal record is one of the basic requirements for working as a sports professional and must be demonstrated by a sworn statement or an extract from the criminal record for work with children and youth. This requirement is in accordance with the opinion of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, according to which requiring a criminal record check for work with youth is a legitimate measure for the protection of children.	Yes. The requirement to have a clean criminal record also applies to volunteers if they perform the duties of a sports professional or other activities involving regular contact with children.	Yes. The requirement for clean criminal record under the Sports Act applies to all sports professionals, regardless of sector. Sports organizations are required to ensure compliance with the statutory requirements (Section 67 of the Sports Act).	Yes. Self-employed individuals must meet the requirement of clean criminal record and provide proof thereof in accordance with Section 7 of the Sports Act.	Section 6 of the Sports Act defines who qualifies as a sports professional; this primarily refers to coaches and instructors. § 6 (1) A sports professional is a) a sports coach or instructor, b) a natural person performing professional activities in sports based on professional qualifications obtained in accordance with a special regulation,6) c) a natural person performing professional activities in sports based on professional qualifications specified by the regulations of a sports federation, d) a natural person performing activities in sports for which, in accordance with competition rules and the regulations of a sports federation, professional qualifications are not required, e) an auditor of a sports organization (hereinafter referred to as “auditor”), f) an official of a sports organization.
Culture and leisure activities	Not in general	Not in general	Not in general	Not in general	Under Slovak law, there is no general legal requirement for individuals in the cultural sector who work with children to prove their

					clean criminal record by providing an extract or copy of their criminal record.
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	youth workers, youth leaders, young leaders, instructors, and volunteers
Entertainment sector	Not in general	No	Not in general	Not in general	Only in regulated activities
Faith and religion	Not in general	Not in general	Not in general	No	According to the internal rules of the churches. There is no general legal requirement to screen individuals engaged in paid or volunteer work in churches or religious organizations for convictions for sexual offenses committed against children.
Healthcare (including psychological and psychiatric services)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	All healthcare workers (this requirement is not limited to those who have regular contact with children).
Social protection services	Employees of the Social and Legal Protection and Social Guardianship Authority upon starting their employment.	It is not possible	Only the public sector	Does not apply	To all civil servants
	Entities Accredited to Provide Social and Legal Protection and Social Guardianship Services	It is not possible	Yes	Yes—with regard to the practice of independent social work, the Chamber of Social Workers conducts verification in accordance with Act No. 219/2014	To all employees

				Coll. on Social Work and on the Conditions for the Performance of Certain Professional Activities in the Field of Social Affairs and Family, and on Amendments to Certain Acts.	
Law enforcement	Yes	No	No	No	All law enforcement officers
Judicial	Yes	No	No	No	Judges, prosecutors, senior court officials, and the like. Judges: clean criminal record as a prerequisite for holding office (Section 5 of Act No. 385/2000 Coll. on Judges and Lay Judges). Court officials: Section 2 of Act No. 549/2003 Coll. on Court Officials; for senior court officials, clean criminal record and a copy of the criminal record (Section 2, paragraphs 3 and 4).
Civil society organisations	Not in general	Not in general	Not in general	No	Depending on the nature of the provider's activities and conditions
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	youth workers, youth leaders, young leaders, instructors, and volunteers
Victim services (including Barnahus, domestic	Yes, when registering a public provider or a legal entity established by a public authority, the clean criminal record of the relevant	Volunteers may come into contact with children depending on the facility's	Yes, when registering a public provider or a legal entity established by	Yes, if an individual applies for registration and provides a service.	The person applying for registration, a statutory representative, the person responsible for providing the service, or an authorized representative, as applicable.

violence services)	persons is verified in accordance with Sections 63 and 64 of Act No. 448/2008 Coll. on Social Services. The Social Services Act does not establish a specific, uniform verification requirement for all employees.	target group, although the law does not explicitly establish a general obligation to screen volunteers.	a public authority, the clean criminal record of the relevant persons is verified in accordance with Sections 63 and 64 of Act No. 448/2008 Coll. on Social Services. The Social Services Act does not establish a specific, uniform verification requirement for all employees.		Accreditation under Act No. 274/2017 Coll. on Victims of Criminal Offenses: A prerequisite is that the entity and the individuals who provide or will provide professional assistance to victims have a clean criminal record (Section 24(1)(a), (b)); Clean criminal record is demonstrated by an extract from the criminal record and is verified by the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic (Section 24(2)).
Any other sectors (please specify)	Yes, children's camps/leisure centres	Yes	Yes	Yes	Leaders, activity leaders, educators
	Yes – probation and mediation officers	No	No	No	Probation and Mediation: Probation and mediation officers are court officials (Section 2(2)(c) of Act No. 549/2003 Coll. on Court Officers) and perform their duties as civil servants (Section 1(3) of Act No. 550/2003 Coll. on Probation and Mediation Officers).

Here you can insert additional details or specify any exceptions:

Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic: Under Slovak law, there is no general legal obligation for individuals in the cultural sector who work with children to prove their clean criminal record by providing an extract or copy from the criminal record.

This obligation applies only to certain categories of individuals or arises from specific regulations, e.g., for teaching and professional staff—in institutions where such staff are employed (e.g., elementary art schools, conservatory, certain leisure centers, etc.), Act No. 138/2019 Coll. on Teaching and Professional Staff and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended, applies. This Act establishes:
• the requirement of clean criminal record for the performance of the duties of teaching and professional staff,
• the scope of criminal offenses for which such a person is not considered to have a clean criminal record, even if their conviction has been expunged,
• proof of a clean criminal record through a criminal record extract for work with children and youth,
• verification of a clean criminal record by the employer through the relevant registers.

This means that, for example, in the case of a music teacher at an elementary arts school or another educational staff member, a legal obligation exists.

However, aside from the above, there is no legal obligation in the cultural sector to submit a criminal record check for employees and volunteers working with children.

The Slovak Republic has not established a general legal mechanism that would prevent a person convicted of a sexual offense against a child from performing volunteer or paid work in a church or religious organization, provided that such activity does not fall under a specifically regulated profession or service. In such cases, the general rules of the relevant sector apply, regardless of whether the entity is a church organization or a church-affiliated institution (e.g., a teaching or professional staff member at a church-run school or educational facility). Some churches and religious societies have established internal rules for the protection of minors or their own procedures for vetting individuals who work with children. However, such measures stem from the internal regulations of individual church organizations and not from generally binding legislation of the Slovak Republic.

Ministry of Justice: The primary overarching regulation is Act No. 192/2023 Coll. on the Criminal Record, which governs public documents certifying criminal convictions, including criminal record extracts for work with children and youth (Sections 11 and 15). In specific areas under the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, the following laws also apply: Act No. 274/2017 Coll. on Victims of Criminal Offenses, Act No. 73/1998 Coll. for the Prison and Court Guard Service, Act No. 385/2000 Coll. regarding judges, Act No. 549/2003 Coll. regarding court officers, and Act No. 550/2003 Coll. regarding probation and mediation officers.
Issues related to education, health care, sports, culture, churches, migration facilities, the police, social and legal protection of children, and foster care fall outside the substantive jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic and should be addressed by the relevant authorities.

Ministry of Education: In the field of youth work, pursuant to Act No. 282/2008 Coll. on the Support of Youth Work, a clean criminal record is a fundamental requirement for performing such activities. This requirement applies to youth workers, youth leaders, young leaders, instructors, and volunteers, regardless of the nature of their activities. A person who has been finally convicted of an intentional criminal offense is not considered to have a clean criminal record.

Ministry of the Interior: National Center for Combating Human Trafficking: As part of the public procurement process to provide services for victims of human trafficking under the program for the support and protection of victims of human trafficking, the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic requires that bidders in the public procurement process meet the eligibility criteria regarding personal status pursuant to Section 32(1) of Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended. One of the conditions is that neither the bidder, nor its statutory body, nor a member of the statutory body, nor a member of the supervisory body, nor a proxy may have been finally convicted of a criminal offense of corruption, a criminal offense of harming the financial interests of the European Communities, a criminal offense of money laundering, the crime of establishing, organizing, or supporting a criminal organization, the crime of establishing, organizing, or supporting a terrorist group, the crime of terrorism and certain forms of participation in terrorism, the crime of human trafficking, crimes whose elements are related to business activities, or crimes of bid-rigging in public procurement and public auctions. Sexual offenses are not listed exhaustively, nor are they investigated in any way.

Ministry of Health: A clean criminal record is a mandatory legal requirement for the practice of a healthcare profession (Section 31 in conjunction with Section 38 of Act No. 578/2004 Coll. on Healthcare Providers, health care professionals, professional organizations in health care, and on amendments to certain laws, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 578/2004 Coll.”)).

A person is not considered to meet the clean criminal record requirement if they have been finally convicted of, among other things, a particularly serious criminal offense, a criminal offense against human dignity, a criminal offense related to child pornography, a criminal offense of human trafficking, or a criminal offense of entrusting a child to the care of another person. Sexual offenses committed against children (rape, sexual violence, sexual abuse—Part Two, “Crimes Against Human Dignity”) and child pornography are thus explicitly included in the list. The absence of such a conviction is therefore an essential requirement for practicing the profession.

The requirement set forth in Act No. 578/2004 Coll. on Healthcare Providers, Healthcare Professionals, and Professional Organizations in Healthcare applies universally to all healthcare professionals (it is not limited to contact with children) and, moreover, is broader than just “child-related” offenses (crimes against human dignity regardless of the victim’s age). It therefore applies a fortiori to professions in the healthcare sector that involve regular contact with children.

Clinical psychologists and psychiatrists are healthcare professionals under Act No. 578/2004 Coll., so the same provisions of Section 38 apply to them.

The new Act No. 242/2025 Z. z. on Psychological Practice (effective as of October 1, 2025) establishes a clean criminal record as a requirement for practicing as a psychologist—the use of the title “psychologist” is contingent not only on professional competence but also on meeting the requirements of a clean criminal record, trustworthiness, and registration in the register of psychologists; the requirements for practicing as a psychologist must be met throughout the entire duration of professional practice. The Act also respects the existence of special regimes for psychologists working in healthcare, education, the armed forces, or public administration. Psychological services are thus covered by both pathways (Act No. 242/2025 in general; Act No. 578/2004 in the case of the healthcare profession).

2. **In requiring the verification of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in order to accede to the positions listed in question 1, does your State:**

   a. **define the level or threshold of contact with children (one-off, regular, etc.) which necessitates such a verification**

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes, in part. As a rule, Slovak legislation does not uniformly define, across all sectors, the exact number of hours, frequency or intensity of contact with children that gives rise to the obligation to conduct screening. Instead, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is linked to the performance of a specific profession, position or activity which, by its nature, involves working with children or responsibility for their care, upbringing, education, protection or treatment. For example:
• In the education sector, the requirement to have a clean criminal record applies to teachers and professional staff regardless of whether their contact with children is daily or only occasional, provided that such contact forms part of their duties;
• in child protection and social guardianship facilities, a clean criminal record is required for persons carrying out professional work with children;
• for foster parents, professional foster parents and other persons providing alternative care, a criminal record check is required by virtue of the nature of the activity itself.
In most cases, therefore, the legislation is based on the nature of the position or professional role rather than on the amount of contact with children (e.g. the number of meetings or hours).

In certain sectors where no specific statutory regulation exists (e.g. sports clubs, leisure organisations, church youth activities or non-governmental organisations), screening requirements may be laid down in the internal rules of the organisation. Even in such cases, however, Slovak legislation generally does not prescribe a specific threshold in terms of the frequency or intensity of contact with children.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: In the case of childcare facilities for children under three years of age and emergency housing facilities, Act No. 448/2008 Coll. does not define the level or extent of contact with children (such as one-off, regular, direct, indirect or online contact) as a criterion for conducting criminal record checks in relation to sexual offences committed against children. Instead, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is linked to the person's role within the social service system, in particular to the registration of the service provider, the statutory body, and the person responsible for the provision of the social service.

Ministry of Justice: The legislation falling within the competence of the Ministry of Justice does not use a single uniform general test applicable across all areas. Of cross-sector relevance is, in particular, the criminal record extract for work with children and young people under Section 15 of Act No. 192/2023 Coll.

In the area of accredited entities providing assistance to victims, Act No. 274/2017 Coll. does not make the requirement to have a clean criminal record conditional upon a specifically defined level or extent of contact with children, but rather upon the status of the entity and the persons who provide or will provide professional assistance to victims (Section 24(1)(a) and (b)).

As regards members of the Prison and Court Guard Corps (ZVJS), a clean criminal record is a condition for admission to the service relationship. If a person has committed an intentional criminal offence (including a sexual offence), he or she does not meet this condition. The criminal record check is carried out before the service relationship is established, when it is not yet known whether the officer will be assigned to an institution in which juveniles or adults are held in pre-trial detention or are serving a custodial sentence. Therefore, the extent of future contact with children is not relevant – the criminal record check is always carried out.

The same principle applies to judges, court officials, probation and mediation officers, and accredited entities providing assistance to victims. Under the legislation falling within the competence of the Ministry of Justice, the extent of future contact with children is not relevant – the criminal record check is always carried out before appointment to office, before the establishment of the service relationship, or before accreditation is granted.

Ministry of Education: In the field of youth work under Act No. 282/2008 Coll. on Youth Work Support, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is a fundamental condition for carrying out the activity. This requirement applies to youth workers, youth leaders, young leaders, trainers and volunteers, regardless of the form of their activity. A person who has been finally convicted of an intentional criminal offence is not considered to have a clean criminal record.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The Sports Act does not distinguish between different levels or extents of contact with children.

b. distinguish between direct, indirect or online contact with children?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Slovak legislation governing the requirement to have a clean criminal record for persons working with children generally does not distinguish between direct, indirect and online contact with children when determining the obligation to conduct criminal record checks in relation to convictions for sexual offences against children.

The determining factors are primarily:

- the type of activity performed;

- the employment or official position held;
- the authority or responsibility in relation to children.

Accordingly, the requirement to have a clean criminal record applies to persons performing regulated professions or activities regardless of whether contact with the child takes place:

- in person (face-to-face),
- through electronic communication; or
- in a combined form.

For example, a teacher providing distance education or a school psychologist providing online consultations is subject to the same clean criminal record requirements as when performing their work in person. At the same time, there is no general legal definition of "online contact with a child" for the purposes of criminal record checks, nor is there a separate system of criminal record checks based exclusively on online work with minors.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: In the case of childcare facilities for children under three years of age, regular and direct contact with children is an integral part of the service.

In the case of emergency housing facilities, contact with children depends on the target group and the specific occupancy of the facility. The service may also be provided to adults; however, in practice it often includes parents with children or children as members of the beneficiary's household.

Ministry of Justice: The legislation falling within the competence of the Ministry of Justice does not distinguish whether the activity will involve direct, indirect or online contact with children. The criminal record check is carried out regardless of the form of future contact with children.

Ministry of Education: The legislation does not distinguish between direct, indirect or online contact with children. The requirement to have a clean criminal record applies generally to all persons working in the field of youth work, regardless of the form of contact.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The Sports Act does not distinguish between different forms of contact. In practice, it applies primarily to direct contact.

3. Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required to become:

a. an adoptive parent

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes. Under Slovak law, only a person who fulfils the statutory requirements for the proper exercise of parental rights and responsibilities and whose way of life guarantees that the adoption will be in the best interests of the child may become an adoptive parent. As part of the assessment of the suitability of the prospective adoptive parent, the child protection and social guardianship authorities carry out criminal record checks of applicants, including by obtaining data from the Criminal Records Register.

A conviction for a sexual offence committed against a child would generally be regarded as a serious obstacle leading to the conclusion that the person does not fulfil the requirements for adoption. However, the assessment is carried out as part of a comprehensive evaluation of the applicant's suitability, with the best interests of the child being the decisive consideration.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Pursuant to Section 39 of Act No. 305/2005 Coll. on the Social Protection of Children and Social Guardianship and on Amendments to Certain Acts, an applicant for adoption must demonstrate, for the purpose of being entered in the register of applicants, that he or she has a clean criminal record. A person is not considered to have a clean criminal record if:

a) he or she has been convicted of an intentional criminal offence and sentenced to an unconditional term of imprisonment exceeding one year, even if the conviction has been expunged or the person is deemed, under a special legal provision, not to have been convicted of such an offence; or

b) he or she has been convicted of an intentional criminal offence against life and health, against liberty and human dignity, against the family and young people, against other rights and freedoms, or against peace and humanity, or has been convicted of a terrorist or extremist offence, even if the conviction has been expunged or the person is deemed, under a special legal provision, not to have been convicted of such an offence.

b. a foster parent

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes. A person entered in the register of applicants for foster care must demonstrate a clean criminal record. The child protection and social guardianship authorities verify the applicant's criminal record extract and other circumstances relevant to the assessment of the applicant's suitability. A conviction for a sexual offence committed against a child is incompatible with the proper exercise of foster care and, in practice, constitutes an obstacle to the approval of the applicant. Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Pursuant to Section 39 of Act No. 305/2005 Coll. on the Social Protection of Children and Social Guardianship and on Amendments to Certain Acts, an applicant for foster care must demonstrate a clean criminal record. For the purposes of entry in the register of applicants, a person is not considered to have a clean criminal record if: a) he or she has been convicted of an intentional criminal offence and sentenced to an unconditional term of imprisonment exceeding one year, even if the conviction has been expunged or the person is deemed, under a special legal provision, not to have been convicted of such an offence; or b) he or she has been convicted of an intentional criminal offence against life and health, against liberty and human dignity, against the family and young people, against other rights and freedoms, or against peace and humanity, or has been convicted of a terrorist or extremist offence, even if the conviction has been expunged or the person is deemed, under a special legal provision, not to have been convicted of such an offence.

c. a child’s legal guardian (including for unaccompanied children)?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes, generally. A legal guardian is appointed by the court. When selecting a legal guardian, the court assesses whether the proposed person provides sufficient guarantees for the proper performance of the duties of a legal guardian and whether his or her appointment is in the best interests of the child. Although the legislation does not contain a specific provision referring exclusively to sexual offences committed against children, a conviction for such an offence would constitute a highly significant adverse circumstance and would generally preclude the appointment of that person as a legal guardian. In the case of unaccompanied children, the requirement to protect the best interests of the child applies in the same manner. Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: The legal guardian of an unaccompanied child is the child protection and social guardianship authority. The authorised employee performing the duties of a legal guardian is required to demonstrate a clean criminal record upon recruitment by submitting a criminal record extract.

4. **Is the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children required for the household members of:**

   a. **persons carrying out professional activity in their home who are in contact with children**

Office of the Prosecutor General: Generally, no. Slovak legislation generally requires screening of the person carrying out the activity, rather than of all members of that person's household. Exceptions may arise in specific forms of care provided in a home setting (for example, professional foster parents or certain forms of alternative care), where the family and social environment of the household is also assessed. Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: In the case of childcare facilities for children under three years of age and emergency housing facilities, Act No. 448/2008 Coll. on Social Services does not establish a specific obligation to screen household members of an employee or volunteer of the facility. A person interested in working as a professional foster parent (an employee of a Centre for Children and Families) may become a professional foster parent if he or she has a clean criminal record. (1) For the purposes of this Act, a person is not considered to have a clean criminal record if he or she has been finally convicted of an intentional criminal offence: a) and sentenced to an unconditional term of imprisonment exceeding one year; or b) of an offence against life and health, against liberty and human dignity, against the family and young people, against other rights and freedoms, against peace and humanity, or of a terrorist or extremist offence. (2) For the purposes of this Act, an applicant for the position of professional foster parent, a professional foster parent, the spouse of an applicant for the position of professional foster parent, and the spouse of a professional foster parent are also not considered to have a clean criminal record if a conviction for an offence referred to in paragraph 1 has been expunged or if, under a special legal provision, they are deemed not to have been convicted of such an offence. Ministry of Justice: The Victims Act regulates the requirement to have a clean criminal record for entities providing assistance to victims and for persons who provide or will provide professional assistance to victims (Section 24(1)(a) and (b)), but it does not provide for the general screening of members of the households of such persons. In the case of persons carrying out activities in their own homes and the households of adoptive parents, foster parents or legal guardians, the matter falls primarily within the scope of sector-specific legislation outside the competence of the Ministry of Justice.

   b. **persons carrying out volunteering activity in their home who are in contact with children**

Office of the Prosecutor General: No. There is no general statutory requirement for all members of the household of a volunteer carrying out activities with children in his or her home environment to be screened.

Any such screening may result from the internal rules of the organisation or the conditions of a specific programme, but not from generally binding legislation.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: For the purpose of demonstrating a clean criminal record, an applicant for the position of professional foster parent and the applicant's spouse living in the same household shall, prior to the establishment of the employment relationship, provide the Centre with the data necessary to request a criminal records transcript. Following the assessment of the applicant's suitability, or during the employment of the professional foster parent for the purpose of verifying compliance with the obligation under Section 3(4), the Centre shall transmit the data referred to in the first sentence electronically to the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic in order to obtain a criminal records transcript or a criminal record extract.

Ministry of Justice: The Victims Act regulates the requirement to have a clean criminal record for entities providing assistance to victims and for persons who provide or will provide professional assistance to victims (Section 24(1)(a) and (b)), but it does not provide for the general screening of members of the households of such persons.

Ministry of Education: The screening requirement applies only to the volunteer.

c. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent, or a child's legal guardian?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes, in the case of adoptive parents and foster parents; partially in the case of legal guardians.

In adoption and foster care proceedings, not only the applicant but also the environment in which the child will live is assessed. The child protection and social guardianship authorities assess members of the household and their impact on the child's safety and favourable development.
As part of the social assessment, the following are assessed:
• persons living in the same household;
• their relationship with the child;
• the safety of the family environment;
• circumstances that could pose a risk to the child.

If a member of the household had been convicted of a sexual offence committed against a child or otherwise posed a comparable risk, this could lead to the conclusion that the household is not suitable for the placement of the child.

In the case of legal guardianship, the law does not establish a system for assessing the household that is as detailed as that applicable to adoption or foster care. However, the court may, and generally will, also take into account the family environment of the person proposed as legal guardian where this is relevant for the protection of the child's interests.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: See the reply to Question 3. Particular attention, in the context of assessing the suitability of the environment of a person applying to be entered in the register of applicants, must be paid to persons who are married to, in a partnership with, or living with other persons who are not parties to the proceedings for entry in the register of applicants. With the consent of those persons, the designated authority may ascertain facts relevant to those persons, in particular regarding their health status and whether they have a clean criminal record, and may request that they provide a medical certificate and a criminal record extract issued by the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic. The designated authority shall take these documents into account in the proceedings concerning the entry of the person in the register of applicants.

If a person living in the same household as a person wishing to become a foster parent or an adoptive parent refuses to cooperate in the assessment of the suitability of the environment, the designated authority will not have sufficient evidence that the person wishing to become a foster parent or an adoptive parent, through his or her way of life and the way of life of the persons living in the same household, provides guarantees that the adoption or foster care will be in the best interests of the child.

Ministry of Justice: The Victims Act regulates the requirement to have a clean criminal record for entities providing assistance to victims and for persons who provide or will provide professional assistance to victims (Section 24(1)(a) and (b)), but it does not provide for the general screening of members of the households of such persons.

5. **Does the requirement to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children also apply to:**

   a. **children applying for professional or volunteer positions**

Office of the Prosecutor General: Generally no, or only to a limited extent. Slovak legislation does not contain a specific system for screening minor applicants for employment or volunteer activities that is aimed exclusively at sexual offences committed against children.

However, where legislation requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record for a particular activity (e.g. certain educational, sports or other regulated activities), this requirement may also apply to a person under the age of 18, provided that he or she is legally entitled to carry out that activity. In practice, however, most employment or volunteer positions involving a high level of responsibility for children are filled by adults.

Furthermore, given the specific legal framework governing the recording and protection of data relating to juvenile offenders, access to information concerning the criminal history of children and juveniles is significantly restricted.

Ministry of Justice: In the areas falling within the competence of the Ministry of Justice, the positions typically concerned require adulthood or specific professional qualifications. Pursuant to Section 14(1) of Act No. 73/1998 Coll., only a Slovak citizen over the age of 18 may become a member of the Prison and Court Guard Corps. Pursuant to Section 5(1) of Act No. 385/2000 Coll., a judge must be at least 30 years of age. Court officials and probation and mediation officers are employed under the Civil Service Act or a special legal regime. The information provided does not indicate the existence of volunteer positions for children within the competence of the Ministry of Justice.

Ministry of Education: The requirement to have a clean criminal record also applies to volunteers.

b. adults in respect of criminal convictions received before the age of 18?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes.

When assessing whether an adult meets the requirement to have a clean criminal record, the assessment is based on the information recorded in the Criminal Records Register in accordance with the rules of Slovak criminal law and the legislation governing the Criminal Records Register.

If a conviction for a criminal offence committed before the age of 18 remains recorded and has not been expunged or removed from the Criminal Records Register in accordance with the law, it may be taken into account when assessing whether the person meets the requirement to have a clean criminal record.
However, a special legal regime applies to juvenile offenders, including:
• an emphasis on rehabilitation;
• broader possibilities for the expungement of convictions;
• shorter time limits for expungement;
• restricted access to criminal record information.

As a result, many convictions for offences committed while a person was a juvenile may no longer appear in a criminal record extract once that person reaches adulthood. However, where a conviction remains legally relevant and recorded, it may also be taken into account when screening persons working with children.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Yes. This also applies in the case of professional foster parents, as well as in adoption and foster care proceedings, where the conviction concerns an offence against life and health, an offence against liberty and human dignity, an offence against the family and young persons, an offence against other rights and freedoms, an offence against peace and humanity, or terrorist or extremist offences.

Ministry of Justice: Yes, to the extent that such convictions are recorded and disclosed in accordance with the Act on the Criminal Records Register and other applicable legislation.

Where specific legislation requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract, only convictions that have not been expunged are taken into account. If a conviction for a sexual offence committed before the age of 18 has been expunged, it will not appear in the criminal record extract. The expungement of convictions of juvenile offenders is governed by Section 121 of the Criminal Code.

Where specific legislation requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young persons, expunged convictions for sexual offences committed before the age of 18 are also taken into account (Annex No. 1 to Decree No 376/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of the Interior: A criminal records transcript is required, in which all convictions, including offences committed while the person was a juvenile, are permanently recorded.

6. If a person legally changes their name, how does your State ensure that their criminal record remains linked to their new name?

Office of the Prosecutor General: The Slovak Republic does not maintain the Criminal Records Register primarily on the basis of a person's first name and surname, but rather on the basis of the person's identifying data. The linking of records following a change of first name or surname is ensured primarily through:

• the personal identification number (where one has been assigned);
• the date and place of birth;
• data recorded in the Register of Natural Persons;
• historical identifying data maintained in state registers.

When a person changes his or her first name or surname (for example, following marriage, divorce or an administrative decision), the person's identity remains preserved in the State registers through these unique identifiers. The Criminal Records Register is subsequently updated on the basis of data from the relevant public administration registers. Accordingly, a change of first name or surname does not in itself enable a person to "lose" or "disconnect" his or her criminal history from the new identity.

Ministry of Justice: An entry in the Criminal Records Register is linked to multiple identifying data relating to the person, not only to the person's current first name and surname. Pursuant to Section 4(1)(a) of Act No. 192/2023 Coll., the criminal record contains the person's first name, surname and birth surname, and, where applicable, a pseudonym or nickname. In the event of a change of first name or surname, it also contains the person's former first name or former surname. It further contains the person's date of birth, personal identification number, identity document details, place and district of birth, permanent address, and, for persons born abroad, the country of birth, citizenship, sex and information relating to the person's parents.

Pursuant to Section 1(7) of the Act on the Criminal Records Register, the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic may, for the purpose of performing its statutory tasks, request data from the Register of Natural Persons, the Population Residence Register, the Identity Card Register, the Passport Register, the Register of Foreigners' Residence, the Civil Registry and other registers. An application for a criminal record extract under Section 12(4)(a) must also include the person's former first name or former surname where the person has changed his or her first name or surname.

7. **Is access to public funds for projects implying contact with children conditional on the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children for persons employed in or volunteering for such projects?**

Office of the Prosecutor General: No, not as a general statutory requirement applicable to all publicly funded projects. Slovak legislation does not contain a general rule under which the provision of public funding for any project involving contact with children would be conditional upon the screening of all employees or volunteers for convictions for sexual offences committed against children.
In practice, however, such a requirement may be ensured indirectly:
1. Through sector-specific legislation
- where the project is implemented by schools, educational establishments, Centres for Children and Families, or other entities whose employees are already subject by law to the requirement to have a clean criminal record
2.Through the conditions of a grant scheme or a call for proposals
- the provider of public funding may require compliance with child protection requirements;
- it may require the screening of persons working with children or the adoption of internal safeguarding policies.
3. Through contractual conditions
- in particular in the case of projects financed from EU funds or international grant mechanisms.

However, there is no uniform nationwide obligation that would automatically make all publicly funded projects involving children conditional upon the submission of evidence that all employees and volunteers have not been convicted of sexual offences committed against children.

Ministry of Culture: Such a requirement may exceptionally arise from the specific conditions of a particular grant scheme or from the internal rules of the grant recipient. However, it is not a general statutory requirement applicable to cultural or religious projects involving contact with children.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Childcare facilities for children under three years of age / emergency housing facilities – In the financing of social services, a basic prerequisite is that the social service is provided lawfully, i.e. that the provider is entered in the Register of Social Services. Registration is conditional upon compliance with the statutory requirements, including the requirement to have a clean criminal record for the persons referred to in Section 63 of Act No. 448/2008 Coll., as well as the establishment of appropriate staffing, material, premises, financial and hygiene conditions.

Accredited entities implementing child protection and social guardianship measures are already required to comply with this requirement; therefore, no additional screening is carried out specifically for this purpose.

Ministry of Justice: Within the competence of the Ministry of Justice, the system of accredited entities providing assistance to victims and grants for the provision of professional assistance to victims is of particular relevance. Pursuant to Section 23(2) of Act No. 274/2017 Coll., an entity providing assistance to victims that wishes to provide professional assistance and obtain a grant or financial contribution under that Act must be accredited. A condition for accreditation is the requirement to have a clean criminal record on the part of the entity and of the natural persons providing professional assistance (Section 24(1)(a) and (b)). Pursuant to Section 24(2), a person is not considered to have a clean criminal record if he or she has been finally convicted of an intentional criminal offence, including where the conviction has been expunged or where the person is deemed not to have been convicted. A clean criminal record is demonstrated by means of a criminal records transcript, which is obtained by the Ministry of Justice.

Act No. 302/2016 Coll. allows grants within the competence of the Ministry of Justice to be provided, inter alia, for the provision of professional assistance to victims of crime (Section 2(b)). A grant for this purpose may be awarded for the provision of general professional assistance or specialised professional assistance to a particularly vulnerable victim (Section 3(2)), and the applicant must be an accredited entity (Section 4(2)). It follows that, in the case of grants for the provision of professional assistance to victims, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is linked to accreditation under the Victims Act. However, it cannot be generally stated, as regards the Ministry of Justice, that all publicly funded projects involving contact with children across all sectors are subject to screening requirements within the meaning of the Lanzarote Committee's thematic questionnaire.

Ministry of Education: In the field of youth work under Act No. 282/2008 Coll. on Youth Work Support, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is a fundamental condition for carrying out activities involving persons working with children, including both employees and volunteers involved in projects. However, the legislation does not explicitly provide that the provision of public funding is directly conditional upon the screening of those persons. The requirement to have a clean criminal record applies generally to persons carrying out activities in the field of youth work, regardless of the manner in which the projects are funded.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: In the field of sport, the provision of public funding is subject to compliance with the statutory requirements under the Sports Act and the conditions set out in the public funding agreement. Where a project involves youth sport, the sports organisation or the recipient of the funding must ensure that the activities of a sports professional are carried out only by persons who meet the requirement to have a clean criminal record under Section 7 of the Sports Act. This is therefore a statutory obligation of the recipient of the funding or the sports organisation, which is also reflected in the monitoring of the use of public funds.

<u>Information included in screening</u>

8. **Does the criminal record check include criminal convictions for:**

   a. **sexual abuse of a child (Article 18 of the Lanzarote Convention)**

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 18 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people,

which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.). Ministry of the Interior: Yes. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Yes, where the conviction is included in the relevant criminal records output used for the purposes of work with children and young people. In the field of sport, the Ministry of Tourism and Sports does not assess individual criminal offences separately; the decisive factor is the result of the criminal record extract for work with children and young people (until 11 June 2026, the criminal records transcript) and compliance with the requirement to have a clean criminal record under Section 7 of the Sports Act.

b. sexual exploitation of a child (“child prostitution” Article 19 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 19 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.). Ministry of the Interior: Yes. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Yes, to the extent that such a conviction is included in the relevant criminal record extract for work with children and young people

c. acts involving child sexual abuse material ("child pornography" Article 20 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 20 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of the Interior: Yes.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Yes, to the extent that such a conviction is included in the relevant criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

d. offences related to the participation of children in pornographic performances (Article 21 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 21 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of the Interior: Yes.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Yes, to the extent that such a conviction is included in the relevant criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

e. corruption of a child (causing a child to witness sexual activities) (Article 22 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 22 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of the Interior: Yes.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Yes, to the extent that such a conviction is included in the relevant criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

f. solicitation of a child for sexual purposes ("grooming"), including online (Article 23 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 23 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of the Interior: Yes.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Yes, to the extent that such a conviction is included in the relevant criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

g. aiding and abetting or attempting the above offences (Article 24 of the Lanzarote Convention)

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 24 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of the Interior: Yes.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Yes, to the extent that such a conviction is included in the relevant criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

h. any other convictions (please specify)?

Office of the Prosecutor General: The criminal records transcript/criminal record extract includes all convictions and diversionary measures provided for by law.

Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract contains convictions for all criminal offences that have not been expunged, including the offence referred to in Article 18 of the Lanzarote Convention. However, since 12 June 2026, most legislation concerning work with children and young people requires the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which also contains information on expunged convictions where they concern offences against children (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: In addition to convictions for sexual offences committed against children, the requirement to have a clean criminal record for a sports professional also takes into account other convictions that are relevant under Section 7 of the Sports Act and the contents of the relevant criminal records output. The Sports Act therefore does not provide only for the screening of a single category of sexual offences but is based on the statutory requirement that a sports professional have a clean criminal record.

Section 7

(1) The performance of the activities of a sports professional requires the requirement to have a clean criminal record to be fulfilled. This requirement must be met throughout the entire period during which the person performs the activities of a sports professional.

(2) A person is deemed to have a clean criminal record if they have not been finally convicted of:

a) a serious crime;

b) an intentional criminal offence against life and health, an intentional criminal offence against liberty and human dignity, an intentional criminal offence against the family and young people, an intentional generally dangerous criminal offence, an intentional criminal offence against the Republic, an intentional criminal offence against public order, or an intentional criminal offence against other rights and freedoms;

c) any other criminal offence referred to in points (a) and (b) committed with a weapon, through violence, by threat of immediate violence, by threat of other serious harm, or by the use of coercion; or

d) a criminal offence referred to in points (a) to (c), a property offence or an economic offence, where the person is an auditor or a member of the statutory body of a sports organisation.

(3) A person whose conviction for an offence referred to in paragraph (2) has been expunged, or who is deemed not to have been convicted of such an offence, shall also be deemed to have a clean criminal record.

(4) The requirement to have a clean criminal record shall be demonstrated upon registration in the Register of Natural Persons in Sport by means of a written declaration of honour.

Where a sports professional performs the activities of a sports professional in youth sport, the requirement to have a clean criminal record shall be demonstrated upon registration in the Register of Natural Persons in Sport and thereafter annually by 31 March by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

A sports professional performing activities in youth sport shall also demonstrate the requirement to have a clean criminal record by submitting a criminal record extract for work with children and young people at the request of the Chief Sports Controller for the purposes of inspections under § 61.

For the purpose of demonstrating the requirement to have a clean criminal record, a sports professional performing activities in youth sport shall provide the Ministry of Tourism and Sports with the information necessary to request a criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

The Ministry of Tourism and Sports shall, without delay, transmit the information referred to in the preceding sentence electronically to the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic for the issuance of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people.

Where the competent authorities of Member States of the European Union or the competent authorities of third countries do not issue such a document, a criminal record extract for work with children and young people shall be replaced by an equivalent document issued by the competent authority, provided that it is not more than three months old.
(5) A sports professional shall immediately notify the sports organisation for which they perform the activities of a sports professional of the loss of the requirement to have a clean criminal record.
(6) Upon request, a sports professional shall immediately provide proof of the professional qualifications required to perform the activities of a sports professional.
(7) In the performance of the activities of a sports professional, the sports professional may be monitored by the sports organisation with which they are affiliated without their consent, and visual, audio or audiovisual recordings may be made from such monitoring, unless § 90(3) provides otherwise.
The monitoring conditions set out in § 5(6) and (7) shall apply equally to sports professionals.

Ministry of the Interior: The criminal records transcript contains all other convictions for any criminal offences, including violent, property-related and economic offences.

9. **Does the screening of persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 above extend beyond criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to:**

   a. **relevant administrative or disciplinary sanctions**

Office of the Prosecutor General: No.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: For example, a statement from the municipal authority regarding the way of life of the natural person and the way of life of the persons living in the same household.

Ministry of Justice: General screening through the Criminal Records Register does not include administrative or disciplinary sanctions; the Criminal Records Register is a register of convictions and other decisions provided for by law (Section 1 of Act No. 192/2023 Coll.). However, under the legal frameworks governing members of the public service and the civil service, disciplinary or service-related consequences may be relevant under specific legislation. In the case of the Prison and Court Guard Corps, Act No. 73/1998 Coll. is relevant; in the case of judges, Act No. 385/2000 Coll.; and in the case of judicial officers and civil servants, Act No. 549/2003 Coll. and Act No. 55/2017 Coll.

In the area of accredited entities providing assistance to victims, the Ministry of Justice also verifies compliance with the broader accreditation requirements and the fulfilment of obligations under the Victims Act (Section 30), while the loss of the accreditation requirements or a breach of those obligations may result in the withdrawal of accreditation (Section 29).

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The Sports Act does not provide for the screening of administrative or disciplinary sanctions as part of demonstrating a clean criminal record for a sports professional. The decisive factors are the criminal record extract and the records maintained in the Information System for Sport.

b. other information available to the authorities (e.g. judicial decisions in civil proceedings)?

Office of the Prosecutor General: No.

Ministry of Justice: Screening through the Criminal Records Register does not constitute a general examination of all civil or other decisions available to public authorities. The Criminal Records Register Act specifies the data that are recorded and disclosed, in particular convictions, conditional suspension of criminal prosecution, approved settlements, and related decisions or measures (Sections 1 and 3 to 6 of Act No. 192/2023 Coll.).

Under specific legal regimes, the competent authorities may take into account other facts provided for by law where required by specific legislation. In the area of accreditation under the Victims Act, in addition to the requirement to have a clean criminal record, professional competence, the project, material and technical equipment, premises and insurance are also assessed (Section 24).

10. If restrictions on the exercise of the relevant activities apply as a result of a criminal conviction for sexual offences against children, in line with Article 27 paragraph 3.b:

a. are they life-long?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Not as a general rule. Slovak legislation does not provide for a general lifelong prohibition on carrying out all activities involving children for persons convicted of sexual offences committed against children. However, in certain professions, specific legislation requires a clean criminal record, and persons convicted of certain sexual offences do not meet the requirement to have a clean criminal record, even after the conviction has been expunged.

Ministry of Justice: They may also be lifelong. Pursuant to Section 61(4) of the Criminal Code, a court may impose a lifelong prohibition on carrying out a specific activity where it convicts an offender of the offences of trafficking in human beings (Section 179), rape (Section 199), sexual violence (Section 200), sexual abuse (Sections 201–202), production of child pornography (Section 368), distribution of child pornography (Section 369), or possession of child pornography and participation in a child pornographic performance (Section 370), where such an offence was committed against a child.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: In the field of sport, a person who does not meet the requirement to have a clean criminal record under Section 7 of the Sports Act may not carry out the activities of a sports professional. The restriction is not linked to a specific period of time but rather to compliance with the statutory requirement to have a clean criminal record.

b. if they are not life-long, please specify the time-limits applicable

Office of the Prosecutor General: The applicable time limits depend on the type of penalty or protective measure imposed and on the specific legislation governing the exercise of the relevant activity or profession. There is no single general time limit applicable to all cases.

Ministry of Justice: Where a lifelong prohibition is not imposed, Section 61(2) of the Criminal Code provides that a prohibition on carrying out a specific activity may be imposed for a period of one to ten years where the offender committed the criminal offence in connection with that activity. In the case of juvenile offenders, the special provisions of Section 112 of the Criminal Code must be taken into account; a prohibition on carrying out a specific activity may be imposed only under the conditions set out therein and subject to the specific limits provided. The expungement of a conviction has no effect on the imposition of a prohibition on carrying out a specific activity under Section 61(3) to (5) (Section 61(7)).

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Where a person does not meet the requirement to have a clean criminal record, he or she may not carry out the activities of a sports professional for as long as that requirement is not met. In the case of certain convictions, the law also takes into account the expungement of a conviction or the legal fiction that the person is deemed not to have been convicted. However, for work with children and young people, the relevant criminal record extract for work with children and young people is used.

c. are they applied only to activities in the public sector?

Office of the Prosecutor General: No. Restrictions may apply to activities in both the public and private sectors where specific legislation requires a clean criminal record or provides for a prohibition on carrying out a specific activity. For example, in the case of teachers and professional staff, the requirement to have a clean criminal record applies regardless of whether they are employed by a public or a private employer.

Ministry of Justice: No. Pursuant to Section 61(1) of the Criminal Code, a prohibition on carrying out a specific activity applies to the exercise of a particular employment, profession or office, or an activity requiring a specific authorisation or whose conditions are governed by specific legislation. The wording of this provision does not indicate that it is limited solely to the public sector; it may also apply to activities outside the public sector, provided that the statutory conditions are met. However, sector-specific legislation may provide for additional consequences of a conviction.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: No. The requirement to have a clean criminal record for a sports professional under the Sports Act applies regardless of whether the person works in the public or private sector or is self-employed.

11. Does the criminal record check verify the existence of an expunged or spent criminal conviction for sexual offences against children for persons applying for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes. In certain areas of work with children, expunged convictions or convictions in respect of which the person is deemed not to have been convicted are also taken into account. Slovak legislation requires, for certain professions, the demonstration of a clean criminal record by means of a criminal records transcript or a criminal record extract for work with children and young people, which makes it possible to take into account certain expunged convictions. A person is not considered to have a clean criminal record even where his or her conviction has been expunged or he or she is deemed not to have been convicted, if that person has been convicted of specified sexual offences, including sexual abuse or offences related to child pornography. Ministry of the Interior: Yes. Ministry of Justice: Yes, under the special regime applicable to the criminal record extract for work with children and young people. Pursuant to Section 15(1) of Act No. 192/2023 Coll., the extract contains all non-expunged convictions imposed by a court of the Slovak Republic, a court of another EU Member State, or a court of another State whose decision has been recognised by a court of the Slovak Republic, including information on the enforcement of penalties, protective measures, and appropriate restrictions or obligations. Pursuant to Section 15(2), the extract also contains expunged convictions imposed by a court of the Slovak Republic or by a court of another State whose decision has been recognised by a court of the Slovak Republic, where they relate to offences against children under Section 29(1) (Annex No. 1 to Decree No. 376/2023 Coll.). In the version of the legislation in force as of 27 March 2026, account must also be taken of the transitional provision in Section 30b of the Criminal Records Register Act, according to which, until 11 June 2026, the term criminal record extract for work with children and young people referred to the criminal records transcript. Since 12 June 2026, the full regime under Section 15 has applied. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: In the case of sports professionals working in youth sport, the criminal record extract for work with children and young people is used. Under the Criminal Records Register Act, this extract also contains selected expunged convictions relevant to work with children and young people. As of 27 March 2026, it should also be noted that, pursuant to Section 30b of the Criminal Records Register Act, until 11 June 2026 this extract was understood to mean the criminal records transcript.

Screening procedure

12. How is the screening procedure set out in your legal framework (in a single piece of legislation, sector-specific legislation, or other)?

Office of the Prosecutor General: The screening procedure is governed by a combination of the general legislation on the Criminal Records Register and sector-specific legislation applicable to individual fields of activity. The legal framework is based on the Criminal Records Register Act, while sector-specific legislation determines the scope of the screening for a clean criminal record and the conditions for carrying out particular professions, especially in areas involving work with children.

Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic: In the area of churches and religious societies, the procedure is not regulated by generally binding legislation. Any screening is based on internal rules or on the legislation applicable to other sectors.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Childcare facilities for children under three years of age / emergency housing facilities – The procedure is not regulated by a single specific law exclusively governing the screening of persons working with children in social services. It is based on a combination of the provisions of Act No. 448/2008 Coll. and the general framework for the Criminal Records Register set out in Act No. 192/2023 Coll. Act No. 448/2008 Coll. regulates the conditions for the registration of social services, the persons who must have a clean criminal record, the content of the application for registration, and the powers of the higher territorial unit. Act No. 192/2023 Coll. regulates the maintenance of the Criminal Records Register, the types of public documents and the provision of information from the Criminal Records Register.
In the case of professional foster parents, Act No. 376/2022 Coll. on Professional Foster Parents, Section 3(1), applies.
In the case of applicants for adoption and foster care, Act No. 305/2005 Coll. on Child Protection and Social Guardianship, Section 39(4), applies.
In the case of employees of Centres for Children and Families performing work in the public interest, Act No. 552/2003 Coll., Section 3(5), applies.

Ministry of Justice: The screening procedure is not governed by a single general legal instrument applicable across all sectors. It is based on a combination of: (i) Act No. 192/2023 Coll. on the Criminal Records Register, which regulates the Criminal Records Register, public documents and the provision of information from the Criminal Records Register (Sections 1 and 11 to 26); and (ii) sector-specific legislation defining who is considered to have a clean criminal record for the relevant field and specifying which public document referred to in Section 11(1) of Act No. 192/2023 Coll. is to be used to demonstrate a clean criminal record.
Within the competence of the Ministry of Justice, the relevant legislation includes, in particular, Act No. 274/2017 Coll. on Victims of Crime (Sections 23–30, concerning accreditation and the requirement to have a clean criminal record), Act No. 73/1998 Coll. in relation to members of the Prison and Court Guard Corps (Sections 14 and 46), Act No. 385/2000 Coll. in relation to judges (Section 5), Act No. 549/2003 Coll. in relation to judicial officers (Section 2), and Act No. 550/2003 Coll. in relation to probation and mediation officers (Section 1).

Ministry of the Interior (National Centre for Special Types of Crime): Where public procurement procedures apply, the screening of candidates or tenderers providing the required services is carried out pursuant to Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended. Sexual offences are neither expressly listed nor screened separately.

Ministry of Education: The screening procedure is not governed uniformly by a single legal instrument but is regulated through several legal acts depending on the particular field of activity. In the field of youth work, Act No. 282/2008 Coll. on Youth Work Support establishes the requirement to have a clean criminal record for persons carrying out activities with children and young people. The screening procedure itself is carried out through the Criminal Records Register system in accordance with the general legal framework.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Pursuant to Section 7(4) of the Sports Act, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is demonstrated, upon registration in the Register of Natural Persons in Sport, by means of a written declaration of honour. Where a sports professional carries out activities in youth sport, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is demonstrated upon registration in the Register of Natural Persons in Sport and thereafter annually, by 31 March, by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people.
A sports professional working in youth sport shall also demonstrate a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people upon request by the Chief Sports Controller for the purposes of inspections under Section 61. For this purpose, the sports professional shall provide the Ministry of Tourism and Sports with the information necessary to request a criminal record extract for work with children and young people. The Ministry shall immediately transmit this information electronically to the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic for the issuance of the criminal record extract for work with children and young people. Where the competent authorities of an EU Member State or of a third country do not issue such a document, the criminal record extract for work with children and young people shall be replaced by an equivalent document issued by the competent authority, provided that it is not older than three months.

13. If screening is required, who is required to act?

a. the employer, volunteer recruiter or child protection authority is expected to obtain the necessary information directly from the authorities

Office of the Prosecutor General: In the case of a number of regulated professions and activities, authorised authorities or employers may obtain information on a clean criminal record electronically through public administration information systems or by means of a criminal records transcript, subject to the conditions laid down in sector-specific legislation.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: In the case of screening professional foster parents and employees of non-state accredited entities, the competent child protection and social guardianship authority is responsible.

In the case of screening applicants for adoption and foster care, the competent child protection and social guardianship authority is responsible. In the case of screening employees of Centres for Children and Families performing work in the public interest, teachers and professional staff submit a criminal records transcript to the Centre for Children and Families, which they obtain electronically through the central Criminal Records Register, and it is verified by the Regional School Authority. Other employees submit a criminal record extract.

Ministry of Justice: In the Slovak Republic, there are two applicable regimes. It should be noted that public authorities communicate with one another electronically (Section 13(1) of Act No. 192/2023 Coll.). This is reflected in the relevant sector-specific legislation. Where the entity carrying out the screening is a public authority, the person being screened provides that authority with the information necessary to request a criminal record extract (the information referred to in Section 12(4) of Act No. 192/2023 Coll.). The public authority subsequently transmits this information to the Office of the Prosecutor General for the issuance of the relevant public document.
Where the entity carrying out the screening is not a public authority, the relevant sector-specific legislation requires the person being screened to obtain the relevant public document personally. This may be done directly through the Office of the Prosecutor General, at a post office or at a diplomatic mission (Section 12(6) of Act No. 192/2023 Coll.).

Ministry of the Interior (National Centre for Special Types of Crime): Where public procurement procedures apply, the screening under Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended, is carried out by the contracting authority (e.g. the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic) on the basis of the documents submitted by candidates or tenderers, or on the basis of documents available to the contracting authority through the registers of the public administration information systems of the Slovak Republic. Sexual offences are neither expressly listed nor screened separately.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The sports organisation is responsible, pursuant to Sections 67(2)(h) and 95(1)(r) of the Sports Act. Under Section 67(2)(h), a sports organisation loses its eligibility to receive public funding if it ensures the provision of sporting activities by a sports professional who does not meet the requirement to have a clean criminal record. Under Section 95(1)(r), a sports organisation commits an administrative offence if it ensures the provision of sporting activities by a sports professional who does not meet the requirement to have a clean criminal record.

b. the candidate must provide proof of absence of convictions

Office of the Prosecutor General: As a general rule, the applicant is required to demonstrate a clean criminal record by submitting a criminal record extract or by providing the information necessary to request it. The specific procedure depends on the legislation governing the relevant activity or profession.

Ministry of Education: The applicant is required to provide proof of a clean criminal record, usually in the form of a criminal record extract.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Pursuant to Section 7(4) of the Sports Act, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is demonstrated, upon registration in the Register of Natural Persons in Sport, by means of a written declaration of honour. Where a sports professional carries out activities in youth sport, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is demonstrated upon registration in the Register of Natural

Persons in Sport and thereafter annually, by 31 March, by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people. A sports professional working in youth sport shall also demonstrate a clean criminal record by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people upon request by the Chief Sports Controller for the purposes of inspections under Section 61.

Ministry of the Interior (National Centre for Special Types of Crime): Where public procurement procedures apply, the screening under Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended, is carried out by the contracting authority (e.g. the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic) on the basis of the documents submitted by candidates or tenderers, or on the basis of documents available to the contracting authority through the registers of the public administration information systems of the Slovak Republic. Sexual offences are neither expressly listed nor screened separately.

c. another scenario. Please specify

Office of the Prosecutor General: In certain cases, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is verified electronically on the basis of the identification data provided by the applicant. The competent authority or employer then obtains the criminal record extract or the criminal records transcript through electronic communication with the Criminal Records Register, without requiring the applicant to submit a paper document.

Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic: Any screening may be carried out on the basis of the internal rules of the respective church, religious society or church organisation. However, such procedures do not derive from the generally binding legislation of the Slovak Republic and are not regulated in a uniform manner.

14. If screening is required, who bears the costs of screening procedures?

Office of the Prosecutor General: The costs associated with screening for a clean criminal record depend on the manner in which the screening is carried out. Where the applicant is required to submit a criminal record extract, the administrative fee for its issuance is generally borne by the applicant. Where the requirement to have a clean criminal record is verified electronically by the competent authority or employer pursuant to specific legislation, the applicant is generally not required to pay a separate fee for the issuance of the criminal record extract.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: In the case of the child protection and social guardianship authority, no costs are incurred in connection with the screening procedure. In the case of employees of Centres for Children and Families performing work in the public interest, the employee pays the costs.

Ministry of Justice: The applicant or the relevant entity generally pays the costs, depending on who, under the applicable sector-specific legislation, submits the application or arranges the screening. The fee regime is governed by Act No. 71/1992 Coll. on Court Fees and the Fee for a Criminal Record Extract. Pursuant to Section 2(1)(a), the person requesting the fee-based act is liable for the fee where the

Schedule of Fees provides for a fee upon application. The specific amount of the fee must be determined in accordance with the relevant item of the Schedule of Fees. Where the screening is carried out by a public authority, no fee is payable, as public authorities are exempt from the obligation to pay such fees.

Ministry of Education: In practice, the individual concerned (the applicant for employment or voluntary work) usually pays the costs of obtaining a criminal record extract.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The sports professional.

15. How does your State monitor that employers, volunteer recruiters or child protection authorities comply with the relevant regulations on screening?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Compliance with the regulations on screening for a clean criminal record is monitored through state supervision, inspections and controls carried out by the competent public authorities (particularly in the fields of education, child protection and social guardianship, social services and employment relations). Where non-compliance is identified, corrective measures or sanctions may be imposed in accordance with the applicable legislation.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family:
Childcare facilities for children under three years of age / emergency housing facilities: The higher territorial unit maintains the Register of Social Services, carries out registrations, amendments and removals from the Register, and monitors compliance with the registration requirements throughout the provision of social services, as well as compliance with the obligations of social service providers. The higher territorial unit is therefore the key authority responsible for monitoring compliance with the registration requirements, including those laid down in Sections 63 and 64 of Act No. 448/2008 Coll.
ISn addition, the provision of social services may be subject to other monitoring mechanisms under the Social Services Act, including inspections of service quality, staffing requirements and the use of public funds.
In the case of the child protection and social guardianship authority, compliance is monitored through the control mechanisms of the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family.
In the case of employees of Centres for Children and Families performing work in the public interest, the employee signs a written declaration stating that they will electronically access the central register and request a criminal records transcript, which is subsequently submitted to the Centre for Children and Families. Compliance is monitored by the Centre for Children and Families itself.
In the case of accredited Centres for Children and Families, they are required to notify the authority that granted the accreditation of any changes within the prescribed time limits, including changes to the Centre's staffing structure.

Ministry of Justice: Within the remit of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, monitoring exists primarily under specific regulatory regimes. Accredited entities providing assistance to victims: Pursuant to Section 30(1) of Act No. 274/2017 Coll., the Ministry of Justice

monitors compliance with the accreditation requirements and the obligations of accredited entities. It may appoint an evaluation committee to assess compliance with the quality standards (Section 30(2)) and may impose measures to remedy identified shortcomings (Section 30(3)).
Prison and Court Guard Service and civil service/judicial employment regimes: Compliance with the statutory requirements is monitored as part of the relevant service or employment procedure under the applicable sector-specific legislation. General monitoring of employers or volunteer organisations across all sectors does not fall within the remit of the Ministry of Justice.

Ministry of Education: Compliance with this obligation is ensured through the general responsibility of employers and organisations working with young people, which are required to ensure that the persons carrying out activities meet the conditions laid down by law.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Pursuant to Sections 79 and 80(6)(f) of the Sports Act, the relevant information must be entered into the Information System for Sport. Pursuant to Section 80(6)(f), the Register of Natural Persons in Sport also records information on the verification of a clean criminal record of sports professionals.

16. If screening is required, are there sanctions foreseen for failure to comply with it? If yes, what type of sanctions?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Failure to comply with the obligations relating to screening for a clean criminal record may result in employment-related consequences (e.g. inability to perform the work), administrative sanctions (fines), loss of authorisation to carry out the relevant activity, or other measures under the applicable sector-specific legislation, particularly in areas involving work with children.

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Childcare facilities for children under three years of age / emergency housing facilities: Yes, insofar as the registration requirements are concerned. The higher territorial unit shall refuse to register a social service if the statutory requirements, including those laid down in Section 63 of Act No. 448/2008 Coll., are not fulfilled. During the provision of the social service, failure to comply with these requirements may result in measures to remedy the deficiencies, a prohibition on providing the social service, or removal from the Register, depending on the nature of the breach and the procedural provisions of the Act.
Child protection and social guardianship authorities: Compliance with the screening requirement forms part of the decision-making process. Failure to comply may result in sanctions for breach of service-related duties.
Employees of Centres for Children and Families performing work in the public interest: Failure to comply results in non-recruitment.

Ministry of Justice: Sanctions or other consequences are regulated on a sector-specific basis. Accredited entities under the Victims Act: The Ministry of Justice shall revoke the accreditation if an accredited entity no longer fulfils any of the conditions laid down in Section 24, breaches its obligations under Sections 28 or 28a, or fails to comply with the measures imposed to remedy deficiencies identified during an inspection (Section 29(2)). Where the accreditation of an intervention centre is revoked, its authorisation to operate as an intervention centre also ceases (Section 29(3)).

Civil service and state employment regimes: Failure to meet the requirement to have a clean criminal record or the loss of the required eligibility criteria may result in non-recruitment or service-related/state employment consequences under the applicable sector-specific legislation. Ministry of Education: The legislation governing youth work under Act No. 282/2008 Coll. on the Support of Youth Work does not provide for specific sanctions for failure to comply with the screening requirement. However, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is established by law as a basic condition for carrying out such activities. Where this requirement is not met, the person may not carry out youth work involving contact with children. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Breaches of the obligations relating to the verification of a clean criminal record and the protection of children are subject to sanctions under Sections 95 to 97 of Act No. 440/2015 Coll. on Sport. § 95 – Administrative offences committed by legal persons and entrepreneurs: A sports organisation commits an administrative offence, for example, if it allows a person who does not fulfil the conditions laid down in § 6 (including the requirement to have a clean criminal record) to carry out the activities of a sports professional. § 96 – Imposition of fines: Administrative offences may be sanctioned by a fine, the amount of which is determined according to the seriousness, manner, duration and consequences of the breach. § 97 – Common provisions on sanctions: This provision regulates the procedure for imposing sanctions, the competence of the authorities concerned and other related matters. In addition: - a person who does not fulfil the requirement to have a clean criminal record under § 6 and 7 may not carry out the activities of a sports professional; - the person may be removed from the Register of Sports Professionals maintained pursuant to § 79 et seq.

17. Is regular screening, beyond the initial recruitment process, required, for:

a. professionals in contact with children

Office of the Prosecutor General: As a general rule, the Slovak Republic does not require regular periodic screening for a clean criminal record during the course of employment. The requirement to have a clean criminal record is generally verified at the time of recruitment or upon acquiring the authorisation to carry out a particular activity. Exceptions may arise under sector-specific legislation or the internal rules of the employer; however, there is no general statutory obligation to carry out regular repeated screening. Ministry of Justice: Within the remit of the Ministry of Justice, the available information does not confirm the existence of a uniform system of regular screening of all professionals in contact with children. Under the legislation within the competence of the Ministry of Justice, screening is carried out only before appointment to a position, entry into service or employment, or the granting of accreditation. The legislation generally requires the person concerned to notify any change in the relevant circumstances, including the loss of a clean criminal record. Accredited entities providing assistance to victims: This obligation follows from § 28(d) of Act No. 274/2017 Coll., and failure to comply results in the Ministry of Justice revoking the accreditation pursuant to § 29(2)(b). In addition, the Ministry of Justice continuously monitors compliance with the accreditation requirements and the obligations of accredited entities under § 30 of the Victims Act. Where an accredited entity no longer fulfils the required conditions, the Ministry of Justice revokes its accreditation pursuant to § 29. Prison and Court Guard Service and court/state employment positions: The frequency and mechanism of any repeated screening should be confirmed under the applicable sector-specific legislation and practice. Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Childcare facilities for children under three years of age / emergency housing facilities: For these social services, Act No. 448/2008 Coll. does not establish a uniform obligation to carry out periodic repeated screening of all employees and volunteers who are in contact with children. However, the provider is required to notify the higher territorial unit of any changes to the circumstances referred to in §§ 63 and 64 within eight days, in particular changes relating to persons and information relevant to registration. Professional foster parents: No. However, professional foster parents are required to notify their employer of any changes, including the initiation of criminal proceedings. Employees of Centres for Children and Families performing work in the public interest: No. However, they are required to notify any changes. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Pursuant to § 7(4) of the Sports Act, where a sports professional carries out activities in youth sport, the requirement to have a clean criminal record is demonstrated upon registration in the Register of Natural Persons in Sport and thereafter annually, by 31 March, by means of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people

b. volunteers in contact with children

Office of the Prosecutor General: As a general rule, regular repeated screening of volunteers is not required. The requirement to have a clean criminal record is generally verified before the commencement of voluntary activities, where this is required by sector-specific legislation or by the nature of the activity. Ministry of Justice: Within the remit of the Ministry of Justice, no general system of regular screening of volunteers in contact with children has been identified. The Victims Act does not apply to volunteers as a separate category, but rather to natural persons who provide or will provide professional assistance to victims under an employment relationship or another contractual relationship (§ 24(1)(b)). Where a volunteer in practice provides professional assistance under a legal relationship falling within the scope of the Victims Act, the applicable regime must be assessed on the basis of the accreditation requirements. Ministry of Education: The requirement to have a clean criminal record must be fulfilled throughout the entire period of voluntary service. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: Where a volunteer carries out the activities of a sports professional in youth sport, the requirement to have a clean criminal record must be demonstrated annually, as described under point (a).

c. foster parents and legal guardians?

No. Not in the form of regular periodic screening. In the case of foster parents and legal guardians, the requirement to have a clean criminal record and their suitability are assessed prior to their appointment. Subsequent systematic repeated screening is not generally required by law, although child protection and social guardianship authorities may carry out ongoing supervision of the exercise of alternative family care.

18. Where a person working or volunteering in contact with children is under investigation for a sexual offence against a child, are law enforcement or other authorities allowed to inform the employer or volunteer organisation about the ongoing investigation? If yes, what is the consequence?

Office of the Prosecutor General: As a general rule, law enforcement authorities do not provide information on ongoing criminal investigations to employers or volunteer organisations, in view of the presumption of innocence and the obligation of confidentiality. Exceptions are possible only in cases provided for by law. Where information about an ongoing investigation is lawfully disclosed to the employer, preventive measures may be taken to protect children, including the temporary removal of the person from contact with children or employment-related measures. Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family: Childcare facilities for children under three years of age / emergency housing facilities: This issue primarily concerns criminal proceedings and data protection. From the perspective of Act No. 448/2008 Coll., there is no specific

automatic mechanism requiring law enforcement authorities to inform a social service provider of every ongoing criminal investigation involving an employee or volunteer.
Professional foster parents: Pursuant to § 30 of Act No. 376/2022 Coll. on Professional Foster Parents, immediately upon notification of a suspicion of a sexual offence committed against a child, the child is immediately removed from the family and the professional foster parent is suspended from work until the criminal proceedings have been finally concluded. If the criminal proceedings conclude with a finding of guilt, the employment relationship is terminated immediately.

Ministry of Justice: Criminal proceedings are, as a rule, not public. The Code of Criminal Procedure does not contain a provision that explicitly authorises law enforcement authorities to inform an employer about an ongoing investigation into a sexual offence. An exception may arise where the employer is involved in the proceedings, for example as a witness. Prison and Court Guard Service: Pursuant to § 46 of Act No. 73/1998 Coll., a member of the Prison and Court Guard Service may be temporarily suspended from the performance of State service if their continued service would jeopardise an important interest of the State service or the course of the investigation and there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the person has committed a criminal offence.

Ministry of the Interior: During criminal investigations, the Police commonly request cooperation from the employer (e.g. by requesting an assessment of the employee), through which the organisation becomes officially aware of the investigation. In specific cases, law enforcement authorities may also inform the employer where the person is under investigation on reasonable suspicion of having committed a sexual offence against a child.

Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic: Regardless of whether a State notification mechanism exists, church authorities may, upon obtaining information about a suspicion or criminal prosecution, adopt preventive measures, including the temporary restriction or suspension of the person's duties, in accordance with their internal church regulations.

Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The Sports Act does not specifically regulate an obligation for law enforcement authorities to inform a sports organisation or the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Slovak Republic about an ongoing investigation involving a sports professional. Any disclosure of such information is governed by the general rules on criminal proceedings and the protection of personal data. In the field of sport, the decisive factor is compliance with the requirement to have a clean criminal record and the outcome of the relevant criminal record extract.

Cross-border screening

19. If the candidate for roles or positions specified in questions 1 and 3 has previously resided or worked in different countries, is it required to verify the absence of criminal convictions for sexual offences against children in each of those countries in respect of:

a. Professionals

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes, in certain cases. For activities requiring the demonstration of a clean criminal record (particularly work with children and young people), the applicant may be required to provide proof of a clean criminal record from other countries in which they have resided or worked. The scope of this requirement depends on the applicable sector-specific legislation governing the particular field (e.g. education or social services). In practice, a written declaration of honour regarding a clean criminal record and, where necessary, a criminal record extract from other countries in which the person has resided are required. Ministry of Justice: A criminal record extract and a criminal record extract for work with children and young people also include information on non-expunged convictions imposed by the courts of another Member State of the European Union, as well as by the courts of another State whose decision has been recognised by a court of the Slovak Republic (§ 12(1) and § 15(1) of Act No. 192/2023 Coll.). Pursuant to § 24(1), the Office of the Prosecutor General promptly informs the central authorities of other Member States of the European Union of all final convictions imposed by the courts of the Slovak Republic on natural persons who are nationals of those Member States, as recorded in the Criminal Records Register. The authorities of the other EU Member States are subject to the same obligation where a Slovak national has been convicted in their territory, as this obligation arises from Article 4(2) of Council Framework Decision 2009/315/JHA. The Office of the Prosecutor General subsequently includes this information in the relevant public document. The above applies to Slovak nationals. Where a foreign national is to work with children, the competent authorities responsible for the relevant legislation should provide their position. Under the legislation within the competence of the Ministry of Justice, only a Slovak national may be appointed as a judge, a member of the Prison and Court Guard Service, or a court official. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The Sports Act does not require such verification. Ministry of the Interior (Police Force Presidium, Bureau of Border and Foreign Police) The Bureau generally states that where a foreign national is recruited for employment involving contact with children, it is assumed that the employer verifies the person's background during the recruitment process. The requirement to have a clean criminal record for the purposes of the foreign police, i.e. in relation to a foreign national applying for residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, is verified during the residence procedure (in particular § 121 of Act No. 404/2011 Coll. on the Residence of Foreign Nationals and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended).

b. Volunteers

Office of the Prosecutor General: No, not systematically in all cases. In the context of voluntary activities, verification of foreign convictions is required only where this is required by the organisation or by sector-specific legislation, having regard to the nature of the activity and the contact with children. It is not a general legal requirement applicable to all volunteers. Ministry of Tourism and Sports: The Sports Act does not require such verification.

c. persons wishing to become an adoptive parent, a foster parent or a child's legal guardian?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes. In proceedings concerning adoption, foster care or the appointment of a legal guardian, child protection and social guardianship authorities and the courts assess the person's reliability and the requirement to have a clean criminal record comprehensively, including by verifying information from abroad where the person has resided or worked in another country. As part of this assessment, they may request proof of a clean criminal record from the relevant foreign authorities or cooperate through international mechanisms.

20. Is there a mechanism to:

a. request data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children from the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings[1] (please specify)

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes. The Slovak Republic uses the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS) for the exchange of information on criminal convictions within the European Union. Outside the European Union, such information is exchanged on the basis of international agreements and mutual legal assistance. Ministry of Justice: Yes, to the extent provided for by the Criminal Records Register Act and the relevant European and international mechanisms. Pursuant to § 2 of Act No. 192/2023 Coll., the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic is the central authority for the exchange of information on criminal convictions and other related decisions with other Member States of the European Union and with the United Kingdom. Pursuant to § 25 of the Criminal Records Register Act, the Slovak central authority may request information from the Criminal Records Register from the central authority of another Member State of the European Union, including for purposes other than criminal proceedings, provided that the statutory conditions are met.

[1] For purposes of recruitment, volunteering, adoption, foster care or guardianship.

b. **provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children to the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings (please specify)?**

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes. Information is provided to other States through the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS) (within the European Union) or on the basis of international treaties, including outside the context of criminal proceedings, where permitted by the applicable legal framework. Ministry of Justice: Yes, to the extent provided for by the Criminal Records Register Act. Pursuant to § 26 of Act No. 192/2023 Coll., the Office of the Prosecutor General of the Slovak Republic responds to requests from the central authority of another Member State of the European Union for information from the Criminal Records Register. Of particular relevance is § 26(1)(c), which concerns requests made for the purpose of recruiting a person for professional or organised voluntary activities involving direct and regular contact with children and young people. In such cases, information is provided to the extent corresponding to a criminal record extract for work with children and young people under § 15(1) and (2).

21. **Is there an obligation to provide data about a person's criminal convictions for sexual offences against children at the request of the competent authority of another State outside the context of criminal proceedings?**

Office of the Prosecutor General: Yes. Within the European Union, there is an obligation to exchange information on criminal convictions through the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS), including outside the context of criminal proceedings, where this is in accordance with the law of the requesting State. Outside the European Union, such information is provided only on the basis of international agreements or mutual legal assistance. Ministry of Justice: The obligation to provide information, and the scope of such information, are governed by the Criminal Records Register Act, European Union law and the relevant international instruments. § 26 of the Criminal Records Register Act regulates the response to requests from the central authority of another Member State of the European Union. Information may be provided only to the extent, in the manner and for the purposes prescribed by law. For requests concerning professional or organised voluntary activities involving direct and regular contact with children and young people, § 26(1)(c) is of particular relevance.

Additional details and reflections

22. Please add any further details regarding the modalities of the screening procedures applicable in your State, if relevant.

Office of the Prosecutor General: Screening for the requirement to have a clean criminal record in the Slovak Republic is based on a combination of the Criminal Records Register Act and sector-specific legislation. It is carried out primarily prior to the commencement of an activity and, in certain cases, in an enhanced form for work with children. The screening is conducted by the competent public authorities and employers in accordance with the law.

Ministry of Justice: An important feature of the legal framework is the introduction of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people under § 15 of Act No. 192/2023 Coll. This is a public document intended to strengthen the protection of children and young people, as, in addition to the information contained in the standard criminal record extract, it also includes selected expunged convictions for offences against children (§ 15(2)). Until 11 June 2026, a transitional regime based on a criminal records transcript was applied pursuant to § 30b of the Criminal Records Register Act.

In the field of services for victims, the accreditation system established under the Victims Act constitutes an additional safeguard. Accreditation is the State's verification of an entity's eligibility to provide professional assistance to victims (§ 23(1)). One of the fundamental requirements is the requirement to have a clean criminal record of both the entity and the persons providing professional assistance (§ 24). The Ministry of Justice monitors compliance with the accreditation requirements (§ 30).

Section 24 – Conditions for granting accreditation
(1) A condition for granting accreditation to an entity providing assistance to victims is:
a) the requirement to have a clean criminal record and professional competence of the entity providing assistance to victims;
b) the requirement to have a clean criminal record and professional competence of the natural persons whom the entity providing assistance to victims employs or intends to employ under an employment relationship, or of natural persons under another contractual relationship who provide or will provide professional assistance to victims.

Section 30 – Monitoring compliance with the conditions for accreditation and the obligations of accredited entities
(1) The Ministry of Justice shall monitor whether accredited entities continue to comply with the conditions for accreditation and fulfil their obligations under this Act. The general principles governing inspection activities under a separate legal regulation shall apply to such monitoring.[15]
(2) For the purpose of monitoring compliance with the quality standards for the professional assistance provided by accredited entities under paragraph (1), the Ministry of Justice may appoint an evaluation committee pursuant to § 27(3).
(3) The Ministry of Justice is authorised to require an accredited entity to remedy deficiencies identified during the monitoring process. The accredited entity shall implement the required corrective measures within the prescribed time limit.

(4) The Ministry of Justice shall receive and handle complaints concerning the conduct of accredited entities. A separate legal regulation shall apply mutatis mutandis to the receipt and handling of such complaints.

23. What challenges related to the screening for criminal convictions for sexual offences against children of professionals, volunteers and persons wishing to become adoptive parents, foster parents or a child's legal guardian exist in your State in practice (e.g. administrative costs, delays, cross-border co-operation)?

Office of the Prosecutor General: The main challenges include the administrative burden, differences in sector-specific legislation, delays in the cross-border exchange of information (particularly outside the European Union), inconsistent application in practice, varying levels of digitalisation of procedures, and the need to strike a balance between the protection of children and the protection of personal data.

Ministry of Justice: One of the main practical challenges is the fragmentation of the legal framework. Screening is not governed by a single general law applicable to all persons coming into contact with children, but rather by a combination of the Criminal Records Register Act and sector-specific legislation. This results in differences between procedures where a criminal records transcript or a criminal record extract is requested directly by the competent authority and those where the person concerned is required to submit the document themselves.
Another challenge was the transitional regime under § 30b of the Criminal Records Register Act, under which, until 11 June 2026, several newly introduced types of criminal records outputs were temporarily replaced by a criminal records transcript. In practice, it was necessary to distinguish which authorities were legally entitled to obtain a criminal records transcript and which were not. In the context of cross-border screening, the scope of the information available depends on the legal framework governing the exchange of information, the State in which the conviction was imposed, and the purpose of the request.

24. What promising practices, if any, would your State like to highlight in the screening of professionals, volunteers and other persons in contact with children?

Office of the Prosecutor General: Examples of good practice include the centralised Criminal Records Register, strengthened requirements regarding the requirement to have a clean criminal record for work with children, the progressive digitalisation of procedures, the effective international exchange of information through the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS), and the multi-level assessment of the suitability of persons involved in alternative family care.

Ministry of Culture: Within the Church environment, an example of good practice is the child protection system established by the Catholic Church in Slovakia through the Commission of the Conference of Bishops of Slovakia for the Protection of Minors in the Church and the centralised reporting system for sexual abuse (https://nahlasenieznеuzivania.kbs.sk/). The Conference of Bishops of Slovakia has also adopted guidelines for handling cases of sexual abuse and established a network of diocesan contact points for the protection of minors.

Ministry of Justice: Within the remit of the Ministry of Justice, examples of good practice include:

- the introduction of a criminal record extract for work with children and young people under § 15 of the Criminal Records Register Act, which makes it possible to take into account selected expunged convictions for offences against children;
- the accreditation system for entities providing assistance to victims under the Victims Act, under which the requirement to have a clean criminal record of both the entity and the persons providing professional assistance is a statutory condition for granting accreditation (§ 24), and the Ministry of Justice monitors compliance with these requirements (§ 30);
- the system of intervention centres under § 28a of the Victims Act and the financing of at least one intervention centre in each region (§ 28a(4));
- the possibility of imposing a prohibition on carrying out a specific activity under § 61 of the Criminal Code, including the possibility of a lifetime prohibition in cases of serious sexual and related offences committed against a child (§ 61(4));
  Section 61 – Prohibition on carrying out a specific activity
  (4) The court may impose a lifetime prohibition on carrying out a specific activity where it convicts an offender of the offence of trafficking in human beings under § 179, the offence of rape under § 199, the offence of sexual violence under § 200, the offence of sexual abuse under §§ 201–202, the offence of production of child pornography under § 368, the offence of distribution of child pornography under § 369, or the offence of possession of child pornography and participation in a child pornographic performance under § 370, where such an offence was committed against a child.
- specific statutory requirements concerning the requirement to have a clean criminal record within the justice system and the Prison and Court Guard Service.