The Supreme Court Yearbook

2025

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT

Dear readers,

The past year was extraordinary in many aspects. It was not only another year of stable decision-making and professional activities, but also a year of significant changes with a long-term impact on the functioning of judiciary, its credibility and its perception by the public.

One of the most fundamental changes was the renewal of a two-instance disciplinary procedure concerning judges, prosecutors and bailiffs. The amendment to the Act No 7/2002 Coll., implemented by the Act No 438/2024 Coll., marked a departure from the previous single-instance system in which the disciplinary court was the Supreme Administrative Court. Under the new system, high courts have been incorporated as courts of first instance and the Supreme Court, together with the Supreme Administrative Court, now act as appellate courts. For the Supreme Court, it meant to take on a new, sensitive and professionally demanding role as an appellate disciplinary court, bearing responsibility not only for the legality and consistency of decision-making but also for strengthening confidence in the mechanisms of internal accountability within the judiciary. At the same time, Supreme Court judges actively participate in the Disciplinary Panels of high courts, thereby naturally integrating the new disciplinary agenda into everyday judicial practice. Although no appeal was lodged with the Supreme Court as an appellate disciplinary court during 2025, the Supreme Court is both professionally and administratively prepared to fulfill this new role.

The year 2025 also left a significant mark on the history of the Czech judiciary through another intervention by the Constitutional Court regarding the judges' salaries. Despite previously settled case law of the Constitutional Court, the legislature once again adopted a regulation that set the judges' salary base in a manner contrary to the constitutional principles. The Constitutional Court's ruling of 1 October 2025, Case No Pl. ÚS 19/25, annulled this regulation and explicitly pointed out the factual prolongation of an already established unconstitutional state. This development cannot be perceived merely as a dispute over remuneration but primarily as a question of respect for the principle of judicial independence. Repeated interventions in judges' salaries, which are not justified by exceptional circumstances or general saving measures, undermine the stability of the system and trust in its predictability. One can only hope this ruling has definitively resolved the issue of judges' salaries and that the automatic mechanism linked to the development of the average wage in the national economy will be respected in the future.

The year 2025 also brought a number of positive highlights. Professional and societal awards granted to the Supreme Court judges are not only personal recognition of their work but also testimony to the quality of the entire institution. The award of the title "Lawyer of the Year" to judge Věra Kůrková in the field of criminal law and the Silver Medal of Antonín Randa to judge Michal Králík confirms that the Supreme Court is composed of leading experts whose professional authority is acknowledged across the legal community.

An exceptionally encouraging signal is also the result of a survey conducted by the STEM agency. According to the survey, 70 % of the population trusts the Supreme Court. This is an outstanding result in the long-term context which cannot be taken for granted. It reflects not only the quality of the decision-making but also the stability of the system, the professionalism of the judges and the court staff and the efforts to communicate clearly and openly towards the public.

The year 2025 was also a period of further modernization of the Supreme Court's external presentation. The launch of a new website, the introduction of a unified visual identity and the issuance of a commemorative coin of nominal value of 100 CZK are not self-serving steps but part of a long-term effort to communicate openly and comprehensibly with the public and to establish the Supreme Court as a significant institution with a respected reputation both domestically and internationally.

An equally important part of this Yearbook is the traditional overview of the Supreme Court's key decisions. The case law issued in 2025 addressed a wide range of fundamental legal questions across civil, commercial and criminal agenda and reaffirmed the role of the Supreme Court as the highest unifying authority of the general judiciary. These decisions are not only fair resolutions of specific disputes but, through their argumentative value, they contribute to the development of law and legal awareness for the benefit of predictable decision-making in our country and also for the benefit of legal education of both professional and lay audiences.

I believe that the 2025 Yearbook will provide you not only with a comprehensive overview of the past year, but also with deeper insight into the challenges faced by the Supreme Court and the values it consistently promotes in its activities.

Petr Angyalossy

1. THE SUPREME COURT AS THE HIGHEST JUDICIAL AUTHORITY IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL MATTERS

The Supreme Court is the highest judicial authority in matters within the courts' jurisdiction in civil court proceedings and in criminal proceedings. Its Panels decide on extraordinary remedies, except for matters that fall within the competence of the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Administrative Court.

Extraordinary remedies are extraordinary appeals against decisions of courts of second instance and complaints on the violation of the law which can be filed in criminal cases by the Minister of Justice. The Supreme Court decides in cases prescribed by law, on the determination of the local and subject-matter jurisdiction of the courts, recognition of foreign decisions, permission to transit persons on the grounds of European arrest warrants, review of wiretapping orders and in the case of doubts about immunity from criminal law enforcement.

The Supreme Court plays a vital role in unifying the case law. It achieves this in particular by deciding on extraordinary appeals and issuing Opinions on a uniform interpretation of the law. The most important decisions of the Supreme Court, or lower instance courts, and Opinions of the Divisions or Plenary Session of the Supreme Court are published in the Collection of Decisions and Opinions of the Supreme Court (hereinafter referred to as the "Collection").

Since 1 September 2017, based on the Act No 159/2006 Coll., on Conflict of Interest, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "Conflict of Interest Act"), the Supreme Court has also been entrusted with receiving and recording notifications concerning the activities, assets, income, gifts and obligations of more than 3,000 judges in the Czech Republic. These records are not made public.

The Act No 438/2024 Coll., amending the Act No 7/2002 Coll., on Proceedings in Matters Concerning Judges, Prosecutors and Bailiffs, entered into force on 21 December 2024 and introduced a two-instance disciplinary procedure. As of that date, the Supreme Court became the second-instance disciplinary court for appeals lodged against decisions of High Courts in matters concerning judges of the Supreme Administrative Court and judges other than those who adjudicate exclusively in administrative justice.

1. 1. Composition of the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is headed by a President and a Vice-President. On 20 May 2020, the President of the Czech Republic Miloš Zeman appointed **Petr Angyalossy** as the President of the Supreme Court for a 10-year term. As of 17 February 2021, the Vice-President of the Supreme Court has been **Petr Šuk**, who was also appointed by the President of the Czech Republic Miloš Zeman for a 10-year term.

Furthermore, the Supreme Court consists of Presidents of Divisions, Presidents of Panels and other judges.

The President of the Supreme Court has a managerial and administrative role. In addition, the President also participates in decision-making, appoints Presidents of Divisions, Presidents of Panels, judicial assistants and court employees to managerial positions. The President issues the Organisational Rules and Office and File Rules and, following discussions at the meeting of the Plenary Session, the Rules of Procedure. Upon consultation with the Council of Judges, the President issues a Work Schedule for every calendar year. The President of the Supreme Court determines the agenda for the meeting of the Plenary Session and proposes Opinions on courts' decision-making to the Plenary Session and to the Divisions.

The Vice-President of the Supreme Court acts as a Deputy for the President when the latter is absent. When the latter is present, the Vice-President exercises the powers conferred by the President. The Vice-President oversees the handling of complaints, in particular those concerning proceedings before courts at all levels of the judiciary, collects comments from the Supreme Court judges on forthcoming Acts of Parliament and, in cooperation with the Judicial Academy, takes care of the training courses for judicial assistants, advisers and employees of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has two Divisions, namely the Civil and Commercial Division and the Criminal Division. They are headed by the Presidents of Divisions, who manage and organise their activities. **Pavlína Brzobohatá** has been the President of the Civil and Commercial Division since 1 January 2024. The President of the Criminal Division from 1 January 2016 until now has been **František Púry,** who has been entrusted with the management of this Division since 1 September 2015. The Divisions adopt Opinions on courts' decision-making practice, monitor and evaluate their final decisions and generalise the findings. Upon proposals by the President of the Supreme Court, Presidents of Divisions and Presidents of Grand Panels, the Divisions adopt Opinions, and select and decide to include seminal decisions in the Collection.

All Opinions of the Plenary Session, Civil and Commercial Division, Criminal Division, selected decisions of the individual Panels and selected decisions of lower courts are published in the Collection.

The Plenary Session, composed of the President of the Supreme Court, the Vice-President of the Supreme Court, Presidents of Divisions, Presi-

dents of Panels and other Supreme Court judges, is the most important collective body of the Supreme Court. It discusses the Rules of Procedure of the Supreme Court and adopts Opinions on courts' decision-making on issues concerning both Divisions or issues on which the Divisions differ in their views.

Grand Panels are composed of at least nine judges from the respective Division of the Supreme Court. The Grand Panel of the Division decides a case when any Panel of the Supreme Court refers the case to it on the ground that it reached a legal opinion which differs from a legal opinion already expressed in a decision of the Supreme Court.

Three-member Panels decide, in particular, on extraordinary appeals and on the recognition and enforceability of decisions of foreign courts in the Czech Republic, and in criminal cases they also decide on complaints on the violation of the law. Each Panel of the Supreme Court is headed by a President who organises the work of the Panel, including assigning cases to Panel members.

The Council of Judges was established at the Supreme Court as an advisory body for the President of the Supreme Court. Members are elected at the assembly of all Supreme Court judges for a term of five years. The last elections to the Council of Judges were held on 10 November 2022. The Council of Judges consists of the President and four other members. Since 1 May 2019, the President has been **Lubomír Ptáček.**

1. 2. Seat of the Supreme Court, Contacts

Address:	Burešova 20, 657 37 Brno
Telephone:	+ 420 541 593 111
Email address:	podatelna@nsoud.cz
Data mailbox ID:	kccaa9t
Website:	www.nsoud.cz
X:	@Nejvyssisoud
LinkedIn:	https://cz.linkedin.com/company/nejvyšší-soud
Instagram:	https://instagram.com/nejvyssisoud

Since 1993, the Supreme Court has been located in a listed building of the former General Pension Institute, which was built based on a design by Emil Králík, a professor at the Czech Technical University in Brno, between 1931 and 1932.

After World War II, several institutions were located in the building. From the 1960s, the Secretariat of the Regional Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party had its offices there and for its needs, in 1986, an insensitive extension, a mansard floor, was built to a design by Milan Steinhauser, along with a courtyard wing with a stepped hall, built into the courtyard.

For a short period of time at the beginning of the 1990s, the Rector's Office and the Institute of Computer Science of Masaryk University were located there. Part of the building was used by the Technical University and the Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts, up to 1996.

On 1 October 2019, after many years of waiting, the Supreme Court's new wing was opened – adjacent to the original historical functionalist building in Bayerova Street. The new office building has seven floors above ground and three floors below ground. The lowest level of the new building holds technological facilities, as well as the new archive of the Supreme Court. Above the new archive, there is an underground garage consisting of two floors with 20 parking spaces. Offices accommodate 143 employees, mainly judicial assistants. Finally, 26 years after its establishment, the Supreme Court acquired decent premises for its vast library on the ground floor of the new wing of the building. A new courtroom was built on the first floor, which can additionally function as a small multipurpose hall. The adjacent terrace was designed as a relaxation zone. The extension of the new wing of the Supreme Court building won second place in the Building of the Year 2019 competition of the South Moravian Region, namely in the category of Public Amenities.

On 13 October 2022, the Supreme Court opened the renovated hall named after František Vážný, the Vice-President of the Supreme Court during the First Czechoslovak Republic and founder of the collections of court decisions. The original hall dated back to 1986 and its reconstruction was already necessary. After the library, which was previously located there, was moved to a new annex, the Supreme Court was able to renovate the hall and expand its capacity to more than 130 people.

The František Vážný Hall is used for meetings of Divisions, Plenary Session, colloquia or conferences, trainings and lectures; if necessary, it can also be used as a large courtroom.

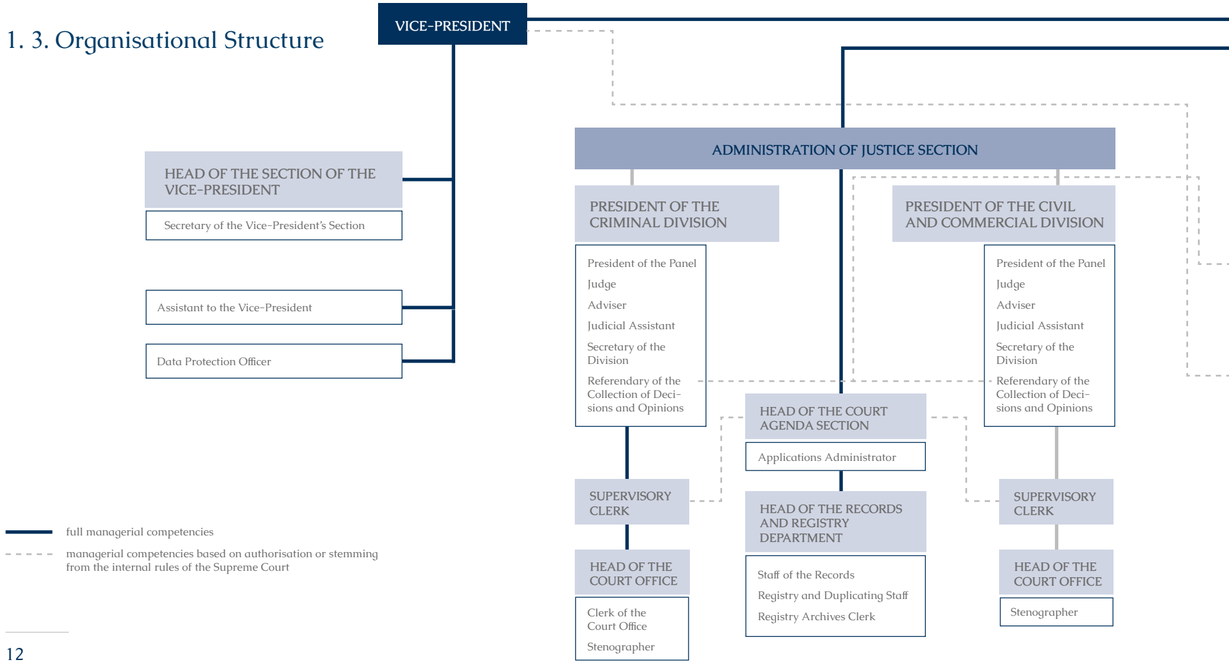
On 14 September 2023, on the occasion of an international conference, a photo gallery of former Supreme Court judges since its establishment in 1993 was presented in the foyer of the František Vážný Hall. The photo gallery matches the renovated space and creates space for conducting debates and conversations at various professional and social events.

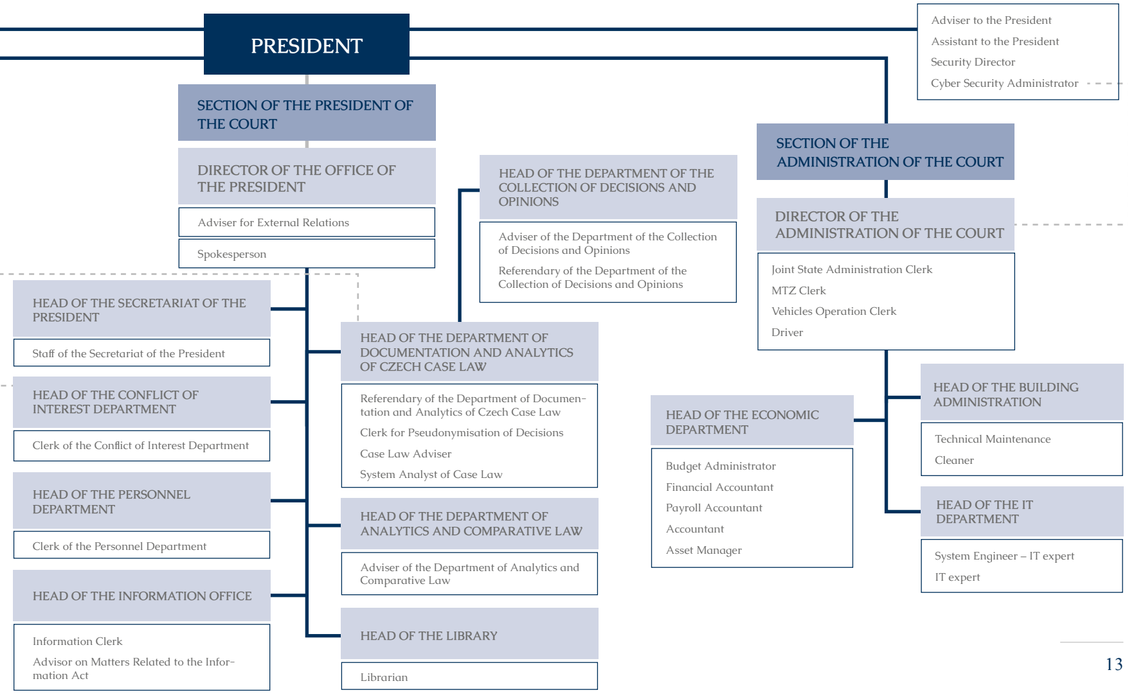
In the second half of 2024, the Supreme Court's conference room on the second floor was reconstructed. Smaller trainings, meetings and other events organised by the Supreme Court are held here. Since the conference room had never been renovated before, this was a complete, rather extensive and technically demanding renovation.

In 2025, several parts of the Supreme Court building underwent changes and renovations. The first renovation focused on the exterior doors of the main entrance portal of the listed Supreme Court building. The renovation was completed in September 2025, and it restored the original appearance of the historic door and improved their functionality, which had been impaired by wear and tear. Restoration works also began on the historic brass light fixtures in the building's foyer. The two original lights have been part of the building since its construction and were renovated for the first time after almost 100 years of service.

Also in 2025, a photovoltaic system on the building's roof was completed. Efforts to install it began in 2024 in order to reduce the building's energy consumption. It was necessary to comply with heritage conservation requirements and place the panels behind the edge of the roof parapet so as not to disturb the appearance of the building.

1. 3. Organisational Structure





1. 4. Supreme Court Judges in 2025

Criminal Division

Petr Angyalossy
Pavla Augustinová
Ondřej Círek
Radek Doležel
Antonín Draštík
Tomáš Durdík
Jan Engelmann
Pavel Göth
Bohuslav Horký
Aleš Kolář
Ivo Kouřil
Věra Kůrková
Josef Mazák
Marta Ondrušová
Jiří Pácal
František Púry
Blanka Roušalová
Jiří Říha
Petr Šabata
Milada Šámalová
Petr Škvain
Vladimír Veselý
Roman Vicherek
Ondřej Vítů

Civil and Commercial Division

Vít Bičák
Pavlína Brzobohatá
Marek Cigánek
Filip Cileček
Marek Doležal
Jiří Doležílek
Václav Duda
Bohumil Dvořák
Jitka Dýšková
Jan Eliáš
Roman Fiala
Petr Gemmel
David Havlík
Pavel Horák
Pavel Horňák
Miroslav Hromada
Lucie Jackwerthová
Miroslava Jirmanová
Michal Králík
Petr Kraus
Pavel Krbek
Zdeněk Krčmář
Petra Kubáčová
Pavel Malý

Helena Myšková
Jiří Němec
Michael Pažitný
Milan Polášek
Hana Polášková Wincorová
Zbyněk Poledna
Lubomír Ptáček
Zdeněk Sajdl
Viktor Sedlák
Pavel Simon
Karel Svoboda
Petr Šuk
Hana Tichá
Pavel Tůma
David Vláčil
Petr Vojtek
Martina Vršanská
Robert Waltr
Jiří Zavázal
Aleš Zezula
Ivana Zlatohlávková
Hynek Zoubek

1. 4. 1. Trainee Judges

Criminal Division

Ladislav Koudelka
Daniel Plšek
Ondřej Vítů

Civil and Commercial Division

Filip Havrda
Jan Kolba
Tomáš Lichovník
Helena Nováková
Roman Šebek
Tomáš Zadražil

1. 4. 2. Curricula Vitae of the Newly Assigned Judges

*Pavla Augustinová (*1962)*
Judge of the Criminal Division

- in 1985 she graduated from the Faculty of Law of Charles University, the following year she passed the Advanced Master's state examination and earned the academic degree "Doctor of Laws" – JUDr.
- after passing the judicial examination in 1991, she was appointed as a judge and took her judicial oath in 1992
- her professional career includes service at the Municipal Court and at the High Court in Prague, where she worked for more than 20 years
- in 2007 and from 2014 to 2015 she was temporarily assigned to the Supreme Court
- on 1 January 2025 she became a judge of the Supreme Court

*Petra Kubáčová (*1973)*
Judge of the Civil and Commercial Division

- in 1997 she graduated from the Faculty of Law of Charles University
- after passing the judicial examination in 2001 she started to serve as the President of the Panel at the District Court in Nymburk. In 2010 she became a Vice-President of this court
- from 2013 she served at the Regional Court in Prague, initially as a judge and later as the President of the Panel of the civil law section and as the President of the Records Panel
- in July 2023 she was temporarily assigned to the Supreme Court
- on 1 January 2025 she became a judge of the Supreme Court

*Ondřej Vítů (*1972)*
Judge of the Criminal Division

- graduated from the Faculty of Law of Charles University in Prague
- in 1996 he was assigned as a judicial trainee to the Regional Court in České Budějovice
- in December 1999 he was appointed as a judge at the District Court in Český Krumlov
- from 2002 to 2004 he served as a judge in the appellate criminal law section of the Regional Court in České Budějovice on the basis of a temporary assignment to perform judicial duties. From 2005 to 2024 he served as a judge of this court
- in 2006 he completed an observation programme for criminal judges and public prosecutors organised by the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation in Bonn, Bremen and Cologne
- from 1 July 2024 he served as a trainee judge of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court
- on 1 July 2025 he became a judge of the Supreme Court

2. DECISION-MAKING

2. 1. Plenary Session of the Supreme Court

The Plenary Session of the Supreme Court, composed of the President, the Vice-President, Presidents of Divisions, Presidents of Panels and other judges of the Supreme Court, is the most important collective body of the Supreme Court. In the interest of the uniform decision-making of the courts, it adopts unifying Opinions on the decision-making activity of the courts in matters which concern both Divisions or which are disputed between the Divisions. It also discusses the Court's Rules of Procedure and decides on merging or splitting the Divisions. The meetings are closed to the public and convened and presided by the President of the Court; the President must always convene a meeting if at least one third of all the judges so request. The Plenary Session has a quorum in the presence of at least two thirds of all judges; a simple majority of those present is required to pass a resolution, but in matters of unifying Opinions and merging or splitting the Divisions, a majority of all judges is needed (Section 23 of the Act No 6/2002 Coll., on Courts and Judges, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the "Act on Courts and Judges"). In 2025, the Plenary Session did not convene.

2. 2. Collection of Decisions and Opinions of the Supreme Court

In terms of providing information about the Supreme Court's unifying activity and also promoting legal awareness of both the legal experts and the general public, an important activity of the Supreme Court is the publication of the Collection [Section 24(1) of the Act on Courts and Judges]. This is the only official collection of court decisions on cases falling within the scope of the Courts' jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters. The Collection contains all the Opinions of both Divisions of the Supreme Court, as well as selected and approved decisions of various Panels of the Divisions, including the Grand Panel, and also selected and approved decisions of lower courts. The Collection is divided into civil and criminal sections.

Once the decisions selected for potential publication in the Collection have been assessed by the Records Panel of the relevant Supreme Court Division, they are sent for comments to the relevant authorities, i.e. regional and high courts, law faculties of universities, the Czech Bar Association, the Ministry of Justice, for criminal matters to the Prosecutor General's

Office and potentially, depending on the nature and importance of the questions being addressed, other bodies and institutions. The proposed decisions and the comments received are then considered and approved at a meeting of the relevant Supreme Court Division, which constitutes a quorum of a simple majority of its members who are present. At the Division meeting the proposed decisions may be adjusted if necessary, and then all the judges of the Division attending the meeting vote to approve them for publication. A simple majority of votes of all the judges of the Division is required to approve a decision for publication in the Collection.

The Collection is published in individual volumes, which were published ten times a year in printed form until volume No 10/2021. Since 2017, a more user-friendly electronic form has also been available to the public. Similarly, the so-called "Blue Collection", containing a selection of important decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, has been available in electronic form since 2017. The Supreme Court also published this collection as a printed book until the end of 2021 under the official title Selection of Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights for Judicial Practice. From 2022 onwards, both collections are created and new volumes published only in electronic form, at https://sbirka.nsoud.cz/; https://eslp.nsoud.cz.

Individual judgments from the Collection can also be found, along with legal sentence (e.g. sentence containing a brief summary of the most important part of the decision; in German *"Rechtssatz"*), on the Supreme Court website www.nsoud.cz, where the content of the next issue of the Collection is also announced in advance on the homepage.

2. 3. The Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court

2. 3. 1. Overview of the Decision-Making Activities of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court, as follows from Article 92 of the Constitution of the Czech Republic and Section 14(1) of the Act on Courts and Judges, is the supreme judicial authority, *inter alia,* in matters falling within the civil competence of courts, and it is called upon to ensure the unity and legality of court decisions in civil court proceedings through its Civil and Commercial Division. It fulfils this role primarily by deciding on extraordinary remedies in cases provided for by the laws governing proceedings before courts, namely on extraordinary appeals against decisions of the courts of appeal, as well as – as regards its extra-judicial competence – by adopting Opinions to overcome diverging decision-making by courts in certain types of cases, and finally by publishing selected decisions in the Collection of the Supreme Court.

At the end of 2025, the Civil and Commercial Division consisted of a President and forty-nine judges (five of whom were assigned temporarily) assigned to twelve Judicial Departments (the 32 Cdo Department was abolished as of 1 June 2021), based on the Work Schedule issued by the President of the Supreme Court for that year, or on changes made to the Work Schedule during the year. In principle, the Work Schedule is

based on aspects of specialisation, reflecting the existence of separable and relatively independent agendas of civil and commercial law. Simply put, the specialisations of the various Judicial Departments are as follows: extraordinary appeals in matters of enforcement of judgments – Department 20; in labour law, lien and other matters – Department 21; in matters of property rights and community property – Department 22; in matters of obligations, arbitration proceedings and others – Department 23; in matters of inheritance, family law and others – Department 24; in matters of compensation for damage and protection of personality rights – Department 25; in tenancy matters, in matters of unit owners associations and others – Department 26; in matters of legal entities and capital market – Department 27; in restitution and unjust enrichment matters – Department 28; in insolvency matters and matters regarding promissory notes – Department 29; in matters of compensation for damage and non-material harm caused by the exercise of public authority – Department 30; in matters of obligations, protection of consumers and others – Department 33. Department 31 then consists of the Grand Panel, which decides in accordance with Section 20 of the Act on Courts and Judges.

The composition of the individual procedural (three-member) Panels has been in the past nine years, including the year 2025, determined directly by the Work Schedule. The Schedule established the mechanism by which the contested case was immediately assigned to a particular judge (based on a system of regular rotation) and from which the composition of the three-member Panel was determined (or rather predetermined by the Work Schedule). The judge to whom the case was assigned drew up a draft decision, which was then put to the vote in the Panel thus constituted. At the end of 2022, the new Rules of Procedure of the Supreme Court, effective as of 1 January 2023, were adopted, which, among other things, returned the matter of composition of the individual Panels called to hear and decide a specific case to the hands of the managing President of the relevant Judicial Departments (as determined by the Work Schedule); the managing Presidents compose the Panels primarily according to the criteria of internal specialisations, expertise of individual judges and their individual workload.

2. 3. 1. 1. Deciding on Extraordinary Remedies

The focus of the decision-making activity of the Division's Panels lies in deciding on extraordinary appeals against final decisions of courts of appeal, which is one of the extraordinary remedies according to the wording of the Code of Civil Procedure and dominates the others in terms of its importance. Since 1 January 2013, the procedure has been regulated in Sections 236 to 243g of the Code of Civil Procedure.

An extraordinary appeal is a remedial measure against final decisions of courts of appeal, i.e. against decisions of regional or high courts (in Prague against the decision of the Municipal Court) which terminate the appeal proceedings, as well as against certain specific procedural decisions of courts of appeal listed in Section 238a of the Code of Civil Procedure, and may be filed within two months of the delivery of the contested decision [Section 240(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure].

In accordance with Section 241(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure, the applicant, if they or the person acting on their behalf lack legal training, must be represented by a lawyer (a person who has been admitted to the Bar having their name recorded in the Register of Lawyers maintained by the Czech Bar Association) when applying for extraordinary appeal (in some cases, they may also be represented by a notary).

An extraordinary appeal is admissible only in cases provided for by the law (Section 237 of the Code of Civil Procedure, *a contrario* Section 238 of the Code of Civil Procedure and Section 238a of the Code of Civil Procedure). If the extraordinary appeal is not legally admissible, it does not become admissible even if the court of appeal incorrectly instructs the party that an extraordinary appeal is admissible.

The amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure implemented by the Act No 404/2012 Coll. has also significantly affected the rules on the admissibility of extraordinary appeals. Extraordinary appeal is henceforth admissible against all decisions of the courts of appeal terminating the appeal proceedings, regardless of the wording of the contested operative part of the decision. Therefore, it is irrelevant whether the decision of the court of appeal changes or confirms the decision of the court of first instance, nor is it a condition that the application for extraordinary appeal must be directed against decisions on the merits, as was previously the case (the admissibility of extraordinary appeal against annulling decisions of the courts of appeal was removed by the Act No 296/2017 Coll.).

An extraordinary appeal is admissible (Section 237 of the Code of Civil Procedure) if the contested decision of the court of appeal depends on the resolution of a question of substantive or procedural law, and at the same time:

a) the court of appeal deviated from the established decision-making practice of the Supreme Court;

b) this question has not yet been resolved in the decision-making of the Supreme Court;

c) this question is decided differently by the Supreme Court; or

d) such a question is to be assessed differently by the Supreme Court.

Section 238 of the Code of Civil Procedure stipulates when an extraordinary appeal is not admissible against a decision of the court of appeal terminating the appeal proceedings (relevant here is the property census – an extraordinary appeal is not admissible against judgments and resolutions issued in proceedings the subject of which at the time the decision containing the contested verdict was issued was a monetary performance not exceeding 50,000 CZK, including proceedings for enforcement of a decision, unless the proceedings concern relationships under consumer contracts and labour-law relationships).

Notwithstanding the limitations laid down in Section 238 of the Code of Civil Procedure, an extraordinary appeal in accordance with Section

238a of the Code of Civil Procedure is admissible against the decisions of the courts of appeal which have decided in the course of the appeal proceedings:

a) on who is the procedural successor of a party;

b) on the entry of a party into the proceedings in place of an existing party (Section 107a of the Code of Civil Procedure);

c) on the accession of another party [Section 92(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure]; or

d) on the substitution of a party [Section 92(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure].

An extraordinary appeal may be brought only on the grounds that the decision of the court of appeal is based on an error of substantive or procedural law, which was decisive for the contested decision [Section 241a(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure]. No other grounds for an extraordinary appeal may be effectively invoked, which is worth emphasising, especially in relation to the not infrequent efforts of applicants to challenge the contested decision by means of extraordinary appeals while objecting to the incompleteness or incorrectness of the facts of the case. This does not apply, in the opinion of the Constitutional Court, to situations of extreme inconsistency between the evidence produced and what the court ascertained as the facts of the case on that basis.

Since 1 January 2013, the Code of Civil Procedure has also made the conditions for the formal and substantive requirements of an extraordinary appeal stricter; in addition to the general requirements [Section 42(4)] and the information on the decision against which it is directed, the extent to which the decision is contested and what the applicant seeks, it must also contain a statement of the grounds for an extraordinary appeal and an indication of what the applicant sees as fulfilling the prerequisites for the admissibility of the extraordinary appeal, as set out in Section 237 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The lack of these requirements then constitutes an error in the application for extraordinary appeal, often with fatal consequences, as it can only be remedied during the time limit for applying for the extraordinary appeal. In the proceedings before the Supreme Court, the procedure specified in Section 43 of the Code of Civil Procedure does not apply, which means that the applicant is not called upon to correct or supplement the application for extraordinary appeal. If the error in the application for extraordinary appeal is not remedied, the Supreme Court will reject the extraordinary appeal without being able to deal with the merits of the case.

Therefore, the failure to state what the appellant considers to be the fulfilment of the prerequisites for the admissibility of the extraordinary appeal is also a ground for rejection of the extraordinary appeal, and it is possible for the Supreme Court to rule in such cases through the President of the Panel or the judge in charge [Section 243f(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure]. If, for example, the applicant argues that the court of appeal deviated from the decision-making practice of the Su-

preme Court, it must specify in the extraordinary appeal which judicial conclusions the court of appeal failed to respect, which clearly places considerable demands on the applicant.

However, these demands are not disproportionate with regard to the statutory mandatory (expert) representation (in particular by a lawyer – i.e. a person who has been admitted to the Bar having their name recorded in the Register of Lawyers maintained by the Czech Bar Association). The legal regulation of the extraordinary appeal proceedings requires that the application for extraordinary appeal must be drawn up by a lawyer or notary [Section 241(4) of the Code of Civil Procedure]; the contents of a submission in which the applicant indicated the extent to which they challenge the decision of the court of appeal or in which they have set out the grounds for the extraordinary appeal without complying with the condition of mandatory representation shall not be taken into account [Section 241a(5) of the Code of Civil Procedure].

The Supreme Court shall, as a matter of principle, review the contested decision only to the extent to which the applicant has contested it and from the point of view of the grounds of extraordinary appeal which the applicant has defined in the extraordinary appeal. Exceptions to the binding nature of the scope of the application for extraordinary appeal are laid down in Section 242(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure; the binding nature of the content of the extraordinary appeal argumentation is overruled in exceptional cases by the second sentence of Section 242(3) of the Code of Civil Procedure.

The Supreme Court decides on extraordinary appeals without a hearing in the vast majority of cases [Section 243a(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure].

The Supreme Court discontinues the extraordinary appeal proceedings if the applicant is not legally represented in the manner required by law or if the applicant has withdrawn the application [Section 243c(3) of the Code of Civil Procedure].

If the extraordinary appeal is not admissible or if it suffers from errors which make it impossible to continue the extraordinary appeal proceedings, or if it is manifestly unfounded, the Supreme Court rejects it (Section 243c(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure). If the application for extraordinary appeal is rejected for inadmissibility in accordance with Section 237 of the Code of Civil Procedure, all members of the Panel must agree (Article 243c(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

If the extraordinary appeal is admissible but the Supreme Court concludes that the contested decision of the court of appeal is correct, it dismisses the extraordinary appeal as unfounded (Section 243d(1)(a) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

However, if it concludes that the decision of the court of appeal is incorrect, it may (under the new rules effective from 1 January 2013) change it if the results of the proceedings so far show that the case can be decided (Section 243d(1)(b) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Otherwise, the Supreme Court annuls the decision of the court of appeal and refers the case back to the court of appeal for further proceedings; if the reasons for which the decision of the court of appeal was annulled also apply to the decision of the court of first instance, it will also annul that decision and refer the case back to the court of first instance for further proceedings [Section 243e(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure].

The Supreme Court does not rule only in three-member Panels; the Grand Panel serves to ensure the unity of its decision-making practice (see Sections 19 and 20 of the Act on Courts and Judges), which the procedural Panel addresses if it reaches a legal opinion, which is different from the view expressed earlier in a decision of the Supreme Court. It is then obliged to refer the case to this Grand Panel, composed of the representatives of the various Judicial Departments, which is called upon to decide the case; in 2016 this was the case in 8 cases, in 2017 in 8 cases, in 2018 in 3 cases, in 2019 in 6 cases, in 2020 in 10 cases, in 2021 in 4 cases, in 2022 in 6 cases (in one of which the case was referred to a three-member Panel of the Supreme Court), in 2023 in 6 cases and in 2024 in 4 cases (in one of which the case was referred to a three-member Panel of the Supreme Court) and in 2025 in 4 cases.

The extraordinary appeal proceedings can be monitored in the InfoSoud application, which is available on the website of the Supreme Court and on the website of the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic www.msp.gov.cz; all final and enforceable decisions are then published in an anonymised form on the website www.nsoud.cz.

2. 3. 1. 2. Other Agendas Handled by the Judges of the Civil and Commercial Division

Although the extraordinary appeal agenda is crucial for the Supreme Court and constitutes the main focus of its activities, the Supreme Court also decides on other matters as required by the Code of Civil Procedure or other acts. It is worth noting here that it decides disputes about local and subject-matter jurisdiction between courts, determines the court with local jurisdiction if the matter falls within the competence of the Czech courts but the conditions for local jurisdiction are lacking or cannot be ascertained [Section 11(3) of the Code of Civil Procedure], decides on applications for removal and referral of a case if the competent court cannot hear the case because its judges are excluded or for reasons of appropriateness [Section 12(3) of the Code of Civil Procedure], it further decides on objections questioning impartiality of high courts judges [first sentence of Section 16(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure], or on the exclusion of its own judges (by another Panel in accordance with the second sentence of the same provision), and finally, it acts in proceedings on applications to set a time limit for the performance of a procedural act in accordance with Section 174a of the Act on Courts and Judges.

In accordance with Section 51(2) and Section 55 of the Act No 91/2012 Coll., on Private International Law, as amended, the Supreme Court is called upon to decide on the recognition of final and enforceable foreign judgements in matters of divorce, legal separation, declaration of nullity of marriage and determination of the existence of marriage, if at least one of the parties to the proceedings was a citizen of the Czech Republic,

and also on the recognition of final and enforceable foreign decisions in matters of determination and denial of parenthood, if at least one of the parties to the proceedings was a citizen of the Czech Republic.

The Division also performs its unifying role by adopting Opinions. It also strengthens the uniform decision-making of the courts by publishing the Collection with important decisions of the Supreme Court and other courts (see Chapter 2.3.2. and 2.3.4.).

2. 3. 1. 3. Agendas of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court According to the Relevant Registers

Cdo
– extraordinary appeals against final decisions of the courts of appeal in civil and commercial matters;

Cul
– in civil and commercial matters, applications to set a time limit for the performance of a procedural act in accordance with Section 174a of the Act on Courts and Judges;

ICdo
– incidental disputes arising from insolvency proceedings;

Ncu
– applications for recognition of foreign judgments in matrimonial matters and in matters concerning determination and denial of parenthood;

Nd
– conflicts of jurisdiction between courts;
– application to refer a case to another court of the same level for the reasons specified in Section 12(1), (2) and (3) of the Code of Civil Procedure if one of the courts is within the scope of competence of the High Court in Prague and the other within the scope of competence of the High Court in Olomouc;
– applications to exclude Supreme Court judges from hearing and deciding a case;
– applications for determination of the court that will hear and decide a case if the case falls within the territorial competence of Czech courts but the conditions of local jurisdiction are lacking or cannot be ascertained [Section 11(3) of the Code of Civil Procedure];
– other cases where a procedural decision is required;

NSČR
– cases received by the Court for decision in insolvency proceedings.

2. 3. 2. Unifying Activities of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court

The Civil and Commercial Division primarily performs its unifying role by adopting Opinions on the case law of lower instance courts in certain types of cases [Section 14(3) of the Act on Courts and Judges], on the basis of an evaluation of final decisions that are mutually contradictory in terms of the legal opinions thereby expressed. In 2025, the Civil and Commercial Division issued two unifying Opinions, the first

one of which concerned the issuance of a decision on the application for an interim measure lodged in the course of appellate proceedings (Case No Cpjn 201/2024). The second one addressed the interpretation of Section 136(3) and (5) of the Act No 182/2006 Coll., on Insolvency and Its Resolution (the Insolvency Act), concerning advances for the remuneration and expenses of the insolvency administrator in debt relief proceedings (Case No Cpjn 202/2025).

The Supreme Court also pursues the same interest, i.e., to strengthen unified decision-making, by publishing in its Collection the relevant or otherwise important decisions (not only its own), based on the decisions of a majority of all the judges of the relevant Division. The Civil and Commercial Division met a total of 8 times in 2025, among other matters to select key cases to be published in the Collection.

Every approved Opinion of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court is published in the Collection and is also posted in electronic form on the website of the Supreme Court www.nsoud.cz.

2. 3. 3. Statistical Data on the Activities of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court

It is a fact that the ratio of the quantity of new cases to the decision-making capacity of the Supreme Court necessarily causes a situation where decisions on extraordinary appeals are issued with a certain delay. In some cases, this delay was as long as one or two years, especially in the past years. However, this is currently improving, mainly as a result of the favourable development of incidence. In principle, individual cases are dealt with in the order in which they are delivered to the Supreme Court, taking into account the overall length of the (previous) court proceedings; the particular individual or public importance of the case may also play a role.

Between 2016 and 2024, the number of pending cases older than two years was reduced significantly, however, in the course of 2025 their number slightly increased – while there were 82 such cases in 2015, by the end of 2022 only 7 were registered. At the end of 2025, there were only 25 pending cases older than two years. The reasons why cases older than two years have not been concluded are mostly objective, and they mainly occur because a bankruptcy was declared, a procedural successor must be identified, the case is referred to the Grand Panel, an outcome of proceedings pending before the Constitutional Court is needed, or a preliminary question is submitted to the Court of Justice of the European Union. Moreover, such cases are often expected to be finalised in the near future.

The purpose of judicial assistants is to shorten the length of proceedings, increase the quantitative performance of judges and focus attention on the actual decision-making. Currently, there are between one and three judicial assistants per judge, and at the beginning of 2025 the total number of the assistants in the Civil and Commercial Division was 117.

Year 2025	Pending from earlier periods	Newly received cases	Decided	Pending
Cdo	1,379	3,337	3,350	1,366
Cul	0	2	2	0
ICdo (ICm)	179	202	180	201
Ncu	38	198	189	47
Nd	60	717	178	61
NSČR (INS)	60	85	103	42

Summary of the development of the Civil and Commercial Division's agenda in 2025

A significant increase in incidence was observed in connection with the amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure introduced by the Act No 404/2012 Coll., which expanded the decision-making competences of the Supreme Court and brought a large number of applications for extraordinary appeal, the subject of which were mainly procedural issues lacking the potential for broader case law overlap, rarely requiring individual review by the court of highest instance. The Act No 296/2017 Coll., in effect from 30 September 2017, was supposed to bring the solution to the undesirable overloading of the Supreme Court, whose mission was primarily to unify the case law on generally applicable issues, at the moment when it was faced with another challenge (interpretation of new private law regulations). This amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure brought with it fundamental changes in the admissibility of extraordinary appeals, more specifically the extension of the admissibility exclusions in Section 238 of the Code of Civil Procedure. Namely, decisions on a party's request for exemption from court fees, decisions dismissing a party's request for the appointment of a representative, or decisions by which the court of appeal annulled the decision of the court of first instance and referred the case back for further proceedings were excluded from extraordinary appeal proceedings. It should be added that usually in neither of these cases are legally relevant questions raised for the purposes of developing the case law. The amendment also eliminated the six-month period for rejecting an extraordinary appeal [second sentence of Section 243c(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure, as in effect until 29 September 2017]. This provision led to increased efforts to deal with inadmissible extraordinary appeals, but it has complicated the timely resolution of cases which were open to substantive review and, as a rule, more important in terms of case law, if non-compliance with the six moth period could result in the activation of the liability regime of the State in accordance with Section 13(1) of the Act No 82/1998 Coll., on Liability for Damage Caused in the Exercise of Public Authority by Decision or Maladministration, on the grounds of maladministration, which also covers situations in which a decision was not issued "within the time limit prescribed by law". The most recent amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure (as regards the extraordinary appeal proceedings) included among the exclusions in Section 238 of the Code of Civil Procedure also the resolutions which decided on the exemption from the deposit or the withdrawal of the exemption from the deposit in accordance with the Enforcement Code (Act No 286/2021 Coll.).

From the Supreme Court's point of view, the application of the amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure and the Act No 549/1991 Coll., on Court Fees, as amended, brought in 2018 the desired reversal of the earlier (not always justified) tendency to increase the decision-making burden. The resulting reduction in the incidence has helped to shorten the extraordinary appeal proceedings and to create space for a greater focus on issues with significant case law overlap.

The following overview of statistical data in the Cdo register shows that while until 2017, despite the efforts made and the undeniable progress, the backlog could not be substantially reduced for a long time, the situation has changed markedly for the better in the following years:

Year	Pending from earlier periods	Newly received cases	Decided	Pending
2015	2,893	5,757	5,812	2,838
2016	2,838	6,065	5,971	2,930
2017	2,930	6,105	6,151	2,884
2018	2,884	4,784	5,264	2,404
2019	2,404	4,340	4,774	1,970
2020	1,970	3,927	4,234	1,663
2021	1,662*	3,762	3,855	1,569
2022	1,568*	3,893	3,875	1,586
2023	1,583	3,973	4,085	1,471
2024	1,470	3,610	3,701	1,379
2025	1,379	3,337	3,350	1,336

Overview of the development of the Cdo agenda
*Due to a case contested in 2020 being ruled a mistake in the Cdo agenda in May 2021, an additional adjustment has been made to the 2020 statement in the number of pending cases – the correct number is 1,662. Similarly, there is also a "disparity" in the statistic of pending from previous years for 2021 and those pending from earlier periods as of 1 January 2022.

The obvious reason for the earlier negative trend was that the number of extraordinary appeals received by the Supreme Court was increasing significantly; in 2015, it reached 5,757 cases, 47% more than in 2012, and although in 2015 the judges of the Civil and Commercial Division decided the highest number of cases (5,812), the number of pending cases was still 2,838. Similarly, in 2016, the number of newly received cases rose to 6,065, and although even more cases were decided than in 2015 (5,971), the number of pending cases rose by 92 cases to 2,930. As for 2017, even though 40 more cases were received by the Supreme Court than in the previous year, an even higher number of cases were decided, and the number of pending cases fell slightly to 2,884 cases. Only in 2018, under the influence of the aforementioned amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure introduced by the Act No 296/2017 Coll., was there a substantial reduction in newly received cases (4,784 new cases), which had a positive effect on the number of pending cases, which as of 31 December 2018 amounted to 2,404. The year 2019 then brought a continuation of the mentioned decreasing tendency of newly received cases (4,340) as well as the number of pending cases (an 18 % decrease compared to 2018). In 2020, there was once again a decrease in newly received cases (3,927), which affected the number of pending cases, of which there were only 1,663 at the end of the year, i.e. almost 16% less than on the last day of 2019. The declining trend did not stop in 2021, which saw 3,762 new cases and ended with 1,569 pending cases. Years 2020 and 2021 also saw a decline in newly received cases caused by the coronavirus pandemic, but this has also been reflected in the pending cases, which stood at just 1,569 at the end of the year, about 6% lower than on the last day of 2020. During 2022, the number of received cases increased slightly; there were about 3,5% more new cases than in 2021 (3,893), and 3,875 cases were decided, so there was a slight increase in the number of pending cases, taking the number to 1,586. In 2023, the Supreme Court received 3,973 new cases, whereas 4,085 cases were decided. In 2024, not only the trend of the declining number of newly received cases (3,610) but also the declining number of pending cases (1,379) continued. In 2025, 3,350 cases were decided while the Supreme Court newly received 3,337 cases.

The expected sharp increase in the agenda related to the end of the coronavirus pandemic and the resumption of activity of the courts of appeal without restrictions in 2022 has not occurred, and the effects of the coronavirus pandemic and its end are likely to be more pronounced in the coming years. From the point of view of the Civil and Commercial Division, an increase in litigation can be expected, particularly in the area of compensation for damage, both for breach of contractual obligations and for liability of the State for damage caused by the adoption of anti-epidemic measures. In the context of the pandemic, the Supreme Court has so far mostly decided on extraordinary appeals raising the issue of waiver of the time limit for the performance of a procedural act in accordance with the Act No 191/2020 Coll., the so called "Lex Covid" (e.g. resolution of the Supreme Court of 24 August 2022, Case No 27 Cdo 2076/2021).

2. 3. 4. Selection of Important Decisions of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court

2. 3. 4. 1. Opinions of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court Published in 2025 in the Collection of Decisions and Opinions

To resolve certain contentious issues and to unify the decision making practice of lower courts, the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court issued the following Opinions in 2025, which were published in the Collection of Decisions and Opinions.

Decision on the Application for an Interim Measure Lodged in the Course of Appellate Proceedings

In response to inconsistent decision-making practice among courts of first instance and appellate courts, the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court adopted an Opinion of 9 April 2025, Case No **Cpjn 201/2024**, published under No 1/2025 of the Collection. The Civil and Commercial Division concluded that an application for an interim measure under Section 102 of the Code of Civil Procedure, lodged in the course of appellate proceedings, is to be decided exclusively by the court of first instance, and that the nature of appellate proceedings precludes the analogous application of Section 102 in contentious proceedings (Section 211 of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Advances for the Remuneration and Expenses of the Insolvency Administrator in Debt Relief Proceedings for the Period Prior to the Approval of Debt Relief

In its Opinion of 11 June 2025, Case No **Cpjn 202/2025**, published under No 2/2025 of the Collection, the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court addressed the interpretation of Section 136(3) and (5) of the Act No. 182/2006 Coll., on Insolvency and Its Resolution (the Insolvency Act), concerning advances for the remuneration and expenses of the insolvency administrator in debt relief proceedings for the period prior to the approval of debt relief. The Civil and Commercial Division concluded that a decision on an advance under Section 136(3) and (5) of the Insolvency Act must always be reasoned and is open to appeal.

2. 3. 4. 2. Decisions of the Grand Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court Published in 2025 in the Collection of Decisions and Opinions

Withdrawal from a Contract for Material or Immaterial Delay

In its judgment of 15 May 2024, Case No **31 Cdo 3823/2023**, published in the Collection under No 15/2025, the Grand Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court held that in the event of a material delay by the debtor, it is up to the creditor whether to withdraw from the contract under the provisions for material delay (Section 1977 of the Civil Code) or for immaterial delay (Sections 1978 and 1979 of the Civil Code). Upon expiry of the time limit "without undue delay" under Section 1977 of the Civil Code, the creditor may no longer withdraw from the contract under the provisions for material delay. If the debtor is still in delay, the creditor may still withdraw from the contract under the provisions for immaterial delay. If, in such a case, the creditor notifies the debtor that they are withdrawing from the contract without first granting the debtor additional time limit to perform, the effects of the withdrawal will only take effect after the expiry of the reasonable additional time limit which should have been granted to the debtor to perform their obligations. That period commences when the withdrawal reaches the debtor's disposal.

Directly Enforceable Notarial Deed

In its resolution of 10 April 2024, Case No **31 Cdo 225/2024**, published in the Collection under No 16/2025, the Grand Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court expressed its legal view that a directly enforceable notarial deed, by which an obligation to vacate immovable property is to be enforced, constitutes a notarial deed within the meaning of Section 71b of the Notarial Code and may, therefore, serve as an enforcement title.

Interference With the Right of Healthcare Service Providers to Conduct Business

In its judgment of 12 June 2024, Case No **31 Cdo 881/2024**, published under No 27/2025 of the Collection, the Grand Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court held that the conclusion of a contract between a healthcare service provider and a health insurance company, or between a social service provider and a health insurance company, for the provision and reimbursement of covered services [Sections 17(1) and 17a of the Act No 48/1997 Coll., in effect until 4 August 2013] does not exclude potential unconstitutional interference with the provider's right to conduct business if the agreed method of determining the price of healthcare (social) services does not even cover the necessary costs of providing them. It cannot be *a priori* ruled out that the specific circumstances of the concluded contract may exceptionally override the consequences of the *pacta sunt servanda* principle with respect to the agreed reimbursement for the care provided.

2. 3. 4. 3. Selected Decisions Approved by the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court in 2025 for Publication in the Collection of Decisions and Opinions

Limitation Period for the Lender's Right to Demand Repayment of a Loan

In its judgment of 23 April 2025, Case No **31 Cdo 3263/2024**, which was approved for publication in the Collection on 10 December 2025, the Grand Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court held that if the contract does not specify when the loan is to be repaid, the three-year subjective limitation period [Sections 619(1) and (2) and 629(1) of the Civil Code] for exercising the lender's right to repayment begins to run on the day on which the lender learned (or should and could have learned) that, as a result of a notice of termination, the notice period had expired and the right to repayment of the loan had become due. If only one spouse, without the consent of the other, concluded with a third party a contract relating to a matter concerning their community property, and the omitted spouse raises the objection of relative invalidity of that contract in accordance with Section 714(2) of the Civil Code, then under Section 2993 of the Civil Code, each spouse, not only the spouse who concluded the invalid contract, has standing to assert a claim against the third party for the return of unjust enrichment consisting of the performance provided under the invalid contract.

Remuneration of the Bailiff

In its judgment of 6 August 2024, Case No **20 ICdo 204/2023**, published under No 32/2025 of the Collection, the Supreme Court held that where a bailiff, prior to the opening of insolvency proceedings, carried out action in enforcement proceedings aimed at recovery of the claim, they may be awarded remuneration higher than the minimum provided for in Section 11(2) of the Decree No 330/2001 Coll., having regard to the circumstances of the case, even though no assets were recovered. It is apparent from the legal sentence that the decision concerns the remuneration of a bailiff, in particular the determination of its amount where, prior to the opening of insolvency proceedings, a bailiff carried out action in enforcement proceedings aimed at recovery of the claim, but no assets were recovered as a result of the opening of insolvency proceedings.

Capacity to Become a Party to the Proceedings

In its resolution of 31 July 2024, Case No **24 Cdo 1297/2024**, published in the Collection under No 32/2025, the Supreme Court concluded that the emergence of the legal personality of a natural person (as a subject of law) is not conditioned upon the registration of that person in an official register in the relevant State or upon the issuance of corresponding official identity documents. Although every natural person has the right to be registered immediately upon birth, the failure of such registration, whichever the reason may be, does not mean that the person does not "exist" as a subject of law, that is, that they lack legal personality within

the meaning of Section 23 of the Civil Code, nor does it mean that, for that reason, they do not (or cannot) have the capacity to become a party to the proceedings within the meaning of Section 19 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Non-Material Harm Suffered by a Victim of a Violent Criminal Offence

In its judgment of 27 February 2025, Case No **25 Cdo 2077/2024**, published under No 43/2025 of the Collection, the court of appeal followed up on a criminal-law decision frequently applied in adhesion proceedings (Rt 14/2014) and developed its conclusions considering the current legal framework. The court distinguished the nature of non-material harm resulting from violent criminal offences, which typically affects both the health of the injured party and other personality components such as dignity, reputation or privacy. For determining compensation for non-material harm and its legal qualification in the case of a raped person is therefore decisive whether the situation concerns ("only") an interference with personal rights – in particular, dignity and the freedom of sexual self-determination (Section 2956 of the Civil Code) – or (also) a harm to health, in which compensation is assessed according to the degree of temporary difficulties (pain), permanent health consequences (loss of amenity), or other non-material harm to health (Section 2958 of the Civil Code). Claims arising from harm to health and those arising from an interference with other personality rights may coexist independently.

Discharge from Debts under Slovak Insolvency Law

In its judgment of 17 February 2025, Case No **29 Cdo 323/2023**, published under No 2/2026 of the Collection, the Supreme Court compared the Slovak and Czech legal frameworks governing discharge from debts, concluding that the differences in the Slovak regulation do not constitute grounds for non-recognition of insolvency proceedings under Article 33 of the Regulation (EU) 2015/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU) on Insolvency Proceedings.

Actio Pauliana and a Person Close to a Legal Entity

In its judgment of 31 March 2025, Case No **29 ICdo 39/2024**, published under No 3/2026 of the Collection, under the legal framework of the Act No 89/2012 Coll., the Civil Code, the Supreme Court addressed the question of whether legal entities can be considered persons close to each other simply because the persons close to each other are natural persons who control them, and concluded that this is not the case. The fact that a limited liability company is controlled by a natural person who is a related person (sibling) of a natural person who controls a joint-stock company does not make the limited liability company a person who significantly influences the joint-stock company; legal acts between a joint-stock company and a limited liability company cannot be regarded as legal acts between persons close to each other [Section 22(2) of the Civil Code] solely on that basis.

2. 3. 4. 4. Other Selected Decisions Adopted by the Panels of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court in 2025

Non-Material Harm

In its judgment of 18 June 2025, Case No **31 Cdo 1145/2025**, the Grand Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court held that a legal entity is entitled to compensation for non-material harm resulting from an unlawful interference with its reputation pursuant to Section 135(2) of the Civil Code, on the basis of the analogous application of Section 2988 of the Civil Code concerning protection against unfair competition.

Contract for the Carriage of Goods

In its judgment of 10 September 2025, Case No **31 Cdo 1163/2025**, the Supreme Court addressed the interpretation of Article 1(1) of the CMR Convention containing the expression "contract for the carriage of goods by road in vehicles for reward". This expression must be interpreted autonomously, that is, independently of its meaning under national law, so as to achieve a comparable effect of the CMR Convention in all Contracting States.

Maladministration

In its judgment of 8 October 2025, Case No **31 Cdo 1434/2025**, the Supreme Court held that, when assessing whether criminal proceedings are of excessive length in relation to an injured party who, after the initiation of criminal prosecution against the accused, has lodged a compensation claim, and whether such excessive length constitutes a case of maladministration within the meaning of Section 13(1) third sentence of the Act No 82/1998 Coll., on Liability for Damage Caused in the Exercise of Public Authority, the court shall take into account only the period following the lodging of the claim.

Discontinuation of Enforcement Proceedings

In its resolution of 25 March 2025, Case No **20 Cdo 398/2025**, the Supreme Court took the legal view that the discontinuation of enforcement proceedings may be found to be contrary to good morals within the meaning of Section 55(9) of the Enforcement Code in exceptional circumstances. The mere fact that the creditor diligently pursued the protection of their rights while the debtor remained passive throughout the enforcement proceedings does not, in itself, reach the required threshold. Section 55(9) of the Enforcement Code provides for the creditor's exemption from advancing the expenses of continued enforcement proceedings, a factor which subsequently also affects the possibility of discontinuing enforcement under Section 55(11) of the Enforcement Code. Pursuant to Section 55(9) of the Enforcement Code, the exemption applies, *inter alia*, where such discontinuation would be contrary to good morals. The decision also addresses the interpretation of good morals under Section 55(9) of the Enforcement Code.

Recognition of a Foreign Judgment

The Supreme Court's judgment of 21 May 2025, Case No **20 Cdo 220/2025**, addresses a situation in which the creditor seeks the recognition of a judgment delivered in the United States in proceedings concerning tort liability. The Supreme Court examined whether the international jurisdiction of the United States court had been established within the meaning of Article 8(1) of the Brussels I bis Regulation in circumstances where the debtor was not domiciled in the United States. The domicile of all defendants in a Member State constitutes a prerequisite for the establishment of jurisdiction under Article 8(1) of the Brussels I bis Regulation.

Taking Evidence by Submission of a Document to the Parties for Inspection

In its judgment of 21 August 2025, Case No **21 Cdo 3023/2024**, the Supreme Court dealt with the as of then unresolved procedural question of under what conditions evidence may be presented by submitting a document to the parties for inspection, instead of reading it or communicating its content [Section 129(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure]. The presentation of documentary evidence by submitting the document to the parties for inspection is only permissible in the case of documents that are simple in form and content, with short text, not requiring lengthy or difficult orientation in the text, or documents that do not contain a large amount of information. This also applies to situations where it is appropriate to allow inspection of a document because reading or describing it is less comprehensible to the parties than inspection (this applies in particular to documents that contain, in addition to text, various drawings, images, or documents that have a specific graphic layout). In exceptional cases, documents that do not meet the previously mentioned characteristics may also be admitted as evidence by way of inspection; however, care must always be taken to ensure that the factual result of the evidence (i.e., the evaluation of the content of the evidence) is not surprising or unpredictable for the party.

Occupational Safety and Health Protection

In its judgment of 30 September 2025, Case No **21 Cdo 1325/2025**, the Supreme Court addressed the questions of at which locations (workplaces) an employer is obliged to ensure occupational safety and health protection in relation to natural persons who are not its employees [Section 101(5) of the Labour Code], and to which natural persons this obligation applies. Workplaces at which an employer is obliged to ensure occupational safety and health protection in relation to natural persons, who are not its employees [Section 101(5) of the Labour Code] must be understood as encompassing all premises in which the employer carries out its activities through its employees (including locations and areas related to such activities), over which it exercises control and in which natural persons other than its employees, who remain present with the employer's knowledge, are exposed to risks of potential threats to life and health. The natural persons to whom the employer's obligation to ensure occupational safety and health protection applies are any natural persons other than the employer's employees who remain at the workplace with the employer's knowledge, regardless of the purpose for which they are present and regardless of whether a contractual or other legal relationship exists between them and the employer. Such a natural person may also be a self-employed individual who, on the basis of an agreement concluded with a subcontractor of the employer's contractual supplier, performs cleaning work on the employer's premises.

Warehouse Keeper's Right of Retention

In its judgment of 30 April 2025, Case No **21 Cdo 734/2024**, the Supreme Court dealt with the issue of the warehouse keeper's right of retention of stored goods in order to secure the payment of the depositor's debt on storage fees (Section 2429 of the Civil Code) in the case of storage agreed for an indefinite period. In the case of storage agreed for an indefinite period, the warehouse keeper is obliged to surrender the stored goods at the request of the depositor made at any time during the storage period. The warehouse keeper's obligation to surrender the goods is not conditional upon the depositor's obligation to pay the storage fee for the actual period of storage, but the warehouse keeper may exercise a right of retention on the stored goods to secure the depositor's due debt on the storage fee (Section 2429 of the Civil Code).

Settlement of an Unauthorized Structure

In its judgment of 24 September 2025, Case No **22 Cdo 960/2025**, the Supreme Court dealt with the issue of settling the legal relationship between the owner of the land and the builder of a structure erected on someone else's land without any authorization after 1 January 2014. It concluded that the settlement cannot be carried out in the manner specified in Section 135c(2) and (3) of the Act No 40/1964 Coll., the [old] Civil Code, as amended, effective until 31 December 2013. The only legal aspect that the court must expressly take into account when settling such a relationship pursuant to Sections 1085 and 1086 of the Act No 89/2012 Coll., the [new] Civil Code is the existence of good faith on the part of the builder that they are building on their own land, even though this is not actually the case; only extraordinary, completely exceptional circumstances of the case may outweigh the absence of good faith on the part of the builder and justify the denial of judicial protection to the owner of the land with reference to a case of obvious abuse of rights.

Presumption of Abandonment of Real Estate

In its judgment of 3 September 2025, Case No **22 Cdo 1268/2025**, the Supreme Court explained that Section 65(9) of the Act No 265/2013 Coll., on the Cadastre of Real Estate (Cadastral Act), regulates the procedure of the cadastral office in the event of the application of a rebuttable presumption that the property is abandoned [Section 1050(2) of the Civil Code]. However, it does not establish either an irrebuttable presumption or a fiction of abandonment of real estate. Pursuant to Section 65(9) of the Cadastral Act, the State does not acquire ownership of the real estate.

Scope of Voidance of an Enforcement Title Imposing Multiple Payment Obligations, Some of Which Have Been Satisfied Voluntarily

In its resolution of 26 February 2025, Case No **22 Cdo 3240/2023**, the Supreme Court explained that the ground for voidance under Section 229(2)(c) of the Code of Civil Procedure can apply only in relation to the part of the enforcement title imposing the obligation the enforcement of which was subsequently discontinued.

Restriction of Competition

In its judgment of 30 April 2025, Case No **23 Cdo 1504/2024**, the Supreme Court stated that the mere fact that the trademark owner, when placing products (perfumes and cosmetics) marked with the trademark, whose properties give customers the impression of luxury, on the market through a selective distribution system aimed at maintaining the good reputation (image) of these products, concludes (license) contracts authorizing the marketing of these products only with persons who have not infringed its trademark rights in the last three years and who have been operating at least three brick-and-mortar stores suitable for the sale of these products for at least one year does not constitute an unlawful restriction of competition under Article 101(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Invalidity of a Legal Conduct Performed by a Person Acting Under a Mental Disorder

In its judgment of 28 May 2025, Case No **23 Cdo 3870/2023**, the Supreme Court held that a court shall, in principle, consider the invalidity of a legal conduct performed by a person acting under a mental disorder that renders them incapable of legal acting of its own motion.

Adjustment of the Contractual Penalty

In its judgment of 26 June 2025, Case No **23 Cdo 1567/2024**, the Supreme Court stated that if the contractual penalty is agreed as a rate for each day (or another agreed time unit) of the debtor's delay considerations regarding its adjustment require an assessment based on findings concerning the functions the contractual penalty was intended to fulfil, the circumstances known at the time it was agreed, and the circumstances arising during the period of the debtor's delay (or, as the case may be, circumstances arising later which nevertheless originated in the debtor's delay and were foreseeable at the time of the delay), of whether the amount of the contractual penalty, in its aggregate (or, as the case may be, for individual periods of delay), is proportionate in light of the creditor's interests that were impaired as a result of the debtor's delay in performing the secured contractual obligation and that were intended to be protected by the contractual penalty.

The Office of a Testamentary Executor

In its resolution of 20 May 2025, Case No **24 Cdo 784/2025**, the Supreme Court held that the holding of the office of a testamentary executor is not limited to the duration of the succession proceedings; instead, it continues until all obligations arising from the testamentary disposition have been carried out. An application for the removal of a testamentary executor submitted after the final conclusion of the succession proceedings must therefore be examined and decided in a follow-up contentious proceedings.

Administration of the Estate

In its resolution of 20 September 2025, Case No **24 Cdo 1778/2025**, the Supreme Court clarified that, where the nature of the asserted pecuniary claim permits the proceedings to continue, the procedural successor to a deceased person who died after 1 January 2014 – irrespective of whether the deceased acted as a claimant or a defendant in contentious proceedings – is the person administering the estate (i.e., the estate administrator). Accordingly, in most situations, it will not be consistent with the principle of procedural economy and expedition (Sections 1 and 6 of the Code of Civil Procedure) for courts to automatically stay, upon the death of a party, contentious proceedings until the final decision in the succession proceedings is rendered. An exception will mostly arise where the estate is over-indebted, and the liquidation of the estate may be expected. If it is not directly clear who is in the position of the estate administrator, the court conducting the contentious proceedings shall request information from the notary acting in the capacity of the court commissioner in the succession proceedings, and shall subsequently continue the proceedings, by way of a resolution issued pursuant to the appropriate application of Section 107(1) and (2) of the Code of Civil Procedure, with the estate administrator. Alternatively, the contentious proceedings may be discontinued until it is conclusively determined, in the succession proceedings, who is in the position of estate administrator (Sections 156 and 157 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings). Where the matter cannot be delayed, the court may exceptionally appoint a guardian for the unknown person administering the estate [by analogy with Section 29(3) of the Code of Civil Procedure]. The estate administrator is not liable for the estate's debts, which is also why that person must be identified in the court decision's heading, so it is undeniable that he/she is the administrator for the estate of a specific deceased person.

If the debts of the deceased (including accessories, if they constitute liabilities of the estate) are being recovered in contentious proceedings, the operative part of the court decision imposing an obligation on the estate administrator (except for procedural measures and reimbursement of costs caused by fault under Section 147 of the Code of Civil Procedure) should indicate that, for the duration of the succession proceedings, a creditor can only seek satisfaction from the assets belonging to the estate (Section 1703 of the Civil Code). For the same reason, when deciding on procedural successorship of the estate administrator, the court shall not examine the extent of the administrator's or future heirs' liability for the debts of the deceased. If, in the course of the succession

proceedings, the estate administrator (or the person administering the relevant part of the estate in relation to the contentious proceedings) changes, the court shall decide on procedural successorship again, by virtue of a resolution within the meaning of Section 107(1) and (2) of the Code of Civil Procedure. However, if the inheritance rights have been finally determined in the course of the contentious proceedings (Sections 184 and 185 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings), the court shall, by its resolution adopted under Section 107(1) and (2) of the Code of Civil Procedure, continue the proceedings with the heirs who have assumed the right or obligation at issue, in place of the estate administrator or, as the case may be, the deceased. Where the contentious proceedings continue with heirs in place of the original defendant, the court shall also consider whether, at the time of deciding on the succession, the heir was liable for the deceased's obligations without limitation (Section 1704 of the Civil Code) or whether any of the heirs benefit from an inventory reservation (Section 1688 of the Civil Code) under statutory law (Section 1685 of the Civil Code) or by declaration (Section 1675 of the Civil Code), and thus from limited liability over the deceased's debts (Section 1706 of the Civil Code), or whether such benefit has been forfeited [Section 1688(1)(a) and (2) of the Civil Code]. If there is more than one heir, the court is also obligated to take into account their respective liability under the relevant provisions of the Civil Code (Sections 1699, 1704, 1706, 1707 and 1713); to the extent that an heir or heirs are not liable for the deceased's debts, the proceedings shall be discontinued accordingly.

If the deceased appointed an estate administrator and/or an executor of the will, the estate is administered by way of ordinary administration (Section 1405 et seq. of the Civil Code) until the confirmation of acquisition of the inheritance by the estate administrator, otherwise by the executor. If no such person was appointed, or if the appointed person did not assume the office, resigned, or was removed, the estate is administered, without further decision, by the heir who has not renounced the inheritance, or can no longer do so (Sections 1485 and 1489 of the Civil Code) and whose inheritance right has not been entirely denied. If there are several such heirs and they have not agreed otherwise, they administer the estate jointly and unanimously [Section 1677(1) of the Civil Code].

As regards the assets and liabilities of the estate, they must be duly administered, depending on their scope and structure, as soon as possible after the death of the deceased and continuously until the final determination of inheritance rights or other decision concluding the succession proceedings is rendered, or until the estate is ordered to be liquidated. The estate must be administered as a whole; however, it is not precluded by the law that different persons administer a particular part of it (for example, a part would be administered by an heir and part by the estate administrator).

It may not be perfectly clear, in the initial phase of succession proceedings, who is to administer the estate, especially where no estate administrator or executor who would take over the administration has been appointed by the deceased and where other potential heirs, who have not renounced the inheritance or whose inheritance rights have not been entirely denied, are either not known yet, have refused to assume administration, are manifestly incapable of doing so, or are in apparent disagreement regarding the exercise of the administration. The court commissioner does not, as a rule, administer the estate at any stage of the succession proceedings; once entrusted with the conduct of the succession proceedings (Sections 100 and 101 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings), the commissioner's role is limited to urgent measures such as sealing the estate (Section 149 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings), prohibiting payments (Section 150 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings), deciding on performance of claims of the deceased (Section 151 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings), or allocation of the estate (Section 152 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings).

However, as soon as the need for administration becomes apparent and it is not clear – despite any inquiry addressed to the heirs – who administers the estate, the court commissioner is obliged, without undue delay, to issue a resolution ensuring that the administration of the estate is arranged within a reasonable time after the death of the deceased by one of the methods set forth in Sections 156 and 157 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings. If the estate is not administered by an executor or an estate administrator appointed by the deceased, and unless the succession proceedings reveal otherwise, it is presumed – where only one heir is in consideration and has not renounced the inheritance – that the heir administers the estate. If there are several potential heirs, administration is exercised jointly or by one or more of them, pursuant to their agreement or a court commissioner's decision under Section 156 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings. If the estate is not thereby fully administered, the court commissioner shall, even without an application, appoint an estate administrator (even temporarily or only in relation to a specific part of the estate) at the expense of the estate (Sections 157 and 158 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings); such costs constitute costs of the succession proceedings within the meaning of Section 127 first sentence in fine of the Act on Special Court Proceedings, to be finally determined by the court commissioner in the decision concluding the succession proceedings and imposed on the heirs in accordance with Section 108 of the Act on Special Court Proceedings.

Reduction of Insurance Claim Payment Due to the Breach of Obligations by the Policyholder (the Insured)

In its judgment of 25 June 2025, Case No **25 Cdo 1079/2024**, the Supreme Court addressed the interpretation of the conditions under which an insurer may reduce the insurance claim payment pursuant to Section 2800(2) of the Civil Code. It concluded that the explicit wording of the cited provision does not allow any interpretation other than that the knowledge of the insured (or another person entitled to the insurance claim payment) at the time of the breach of a legal obligation that had a substantial effect on the occurrence or on the aggravation of the consequences of the insured event constitutes a significant circumstance influencing the assessment of the proportionality of the reduction of the insurance claim payment by the insurer. However, such knowledge is not a statutory condition for the insurer's entitlement to reduce the insurance claim payment. Where the obligation was breached due to the insured's conscious negligence (in particular with respect to obligations significant for personal safety and the protection

of property), or even due to an intentional breach of obligation, the reduction of insurance claim payment should be greater than in cases of breach resulting from so-called unconscious negligence, in which case it would be appropriate either to reduce the insurance claim payment only minimally or to deny the insurer's right to reduce the insurance claim payment altogether.

Standing in Disputes Arising from a Breach of Pre-Contractual Liability

In its judgment of 30 July 2025, Case No **25 Cdo 1085/2025**, the Supreme Court concluded that the only person having standing to claim compensation for damage arising from a breach of pre-contractual liability pursuant to Section 1729(2) of the Civil Code is only a party to the contemplated contractual relationship. By this decision, the Supreme Court followed its earlier case law (judgment of 12 October 2022, Case No 25 Cdo 2535/2021), according to which the liability for harm caused by the termination of contractual negotiations without a just cause should be regarded as an exception rather than the rule. Consequently, the circle of entitled persons cannot be impermissibly expanded, especially beyond the scope of their statutory enumeration.

Sale of a Housing Unit by an Owner Who Seriously Breaches Their Obligations

In its judgment of 17 June 2025, Case No **26 Cdo 3431/2024**, the Supreme Court concluded that if the owner of a housing unit breaches their obligations so seriously that it substantially restricts or prevents the exercise of rights by other unit owners, the sale of their unit may be ordered pursuant to Section 1184 of the Civil Code, even if they are unable to assess and control their actions (Section 24 of the Civil Code). The court must always carefully consider the specific circumstances of the case, the circumstances of the owner whose housing unit is to be ordered to be sold, their long-term attitude towards fulfilling their obligations, the duration and intensity of the breach of obligations, as well as other facts that may have influenced the defective conduct of the owner concerned (principle of proportionality).

Concentration of the Proceedings and the First Hearing

In its judgment of 24 June 2025, Case No **26 Cdo 443/2025**, the Supreme Court held that the notion of "first hearing" comprises all hearings before the court at which the procedural steps prescribed by Section 118(1) and (2) of the Code of Civil Procedure are, or should have been, carried out. These include all hearings conducted up to the moment the court proceeds to the taking of evidence. For the concentration of proceedings to take effect within the meaning of Section 118b(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure, the court shall inform the parties thereof no later than during the hearing at which it proceeds to the taking of evidence. Where a court fails to do so, the concentration of proceedings cannot take effect solely for that reason (whether upon the conclusion of the first hearing or upon expiry of the time limit granted), nor can it take effect subsequently (including a situation where a court provides the information at a later stage). Even where a court provides the information on the concentration of proceedings on time pursuant to Section

118b(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure, it still needs to comply with another condition, that is, that the court has carried out all the procedural steps prescribed by Section 118b(1) and (2) by that time.

Right of Retention in Case of a Lease

The Supreme Court dealt with the interpretation of the term "movable property that the tenant has on or in the (leased) property" contained in Section 2234 of the Civil Code in its judgment of 22 October 2025, Case No **26 Cdo 2057/2025**, and concluded that it must be interpreted to mean that the landlord may exercise a right of retention (and a right of retention may arise) only in respect of items belonging directly to the tenant (owned by the tenant). The landlord's good faith in exercising (and creating) the right of retention is not relevant.

Statute of Limitation of a Corporation's Right to Compensation for Damage

The judgment of the Supreme Court of 27 March 2025, Case No **27 Cdo 2540/2024**, addresses an important issue concerning the statute of limitation of a corporation's right to compensation for damage caused to it by a member of its statutory body. The damage to the corporation was caused by proceedings in which a creditor of the corporation was seeking payment of a debt from a member of its statutory body on the basis of statutory liability. In view of the specific nature of the statutory liability of members of statutory bodies for the debts of a corporation the Supreme Court reached the conclusion that the limitation of the corporation's right to compensation for damage prevents the claimant creditor from succeeding in an action against a member of the statutory body based on statutory liability. Even in proceedings concerning an action by which a creditor asserts a claim against a member of an elected body based on a statutory liability pursuant to Section 159(3) of the Civil Code, the court, upon the defendant's objection, examines whether the company's right to compensation for damage caused to it by the defendant's breach of duties in the performance of office was time-barred as of the date on which such proceedings were commenced. If, in such proceedings, the defendant successfully raises an objection that the company's right to compensation for damage is time-barred, the action cannot be upheld to the extent to which the defendant is not obliged to perform towards the company.

Refusal to Apply National Law Due to Its Incompatibility with EU Law

From the perspective of courts maintaining the register of beneficial owners, the resolution of the Supreme Court of 25 August 2025, Case No **27 Cdo 1368/2024**, constitutes a landmark decision. The reason is that the Supreme Court held that, within a defined scope, national provisions on the registration of beneficial owners had to be disapplied on the ground that it was incompatible with EU law. Where information on beneficial owners entered in the register is accessible to any person under Section 14(1)(a) of the Act No 37/2021 Coll., on the Registration of Beneficial Owners, Articles 7 and 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU preclude the enforcement of the registration obligation under Section 9(1) of the aforementioned Act. Accordingly, the absence

of any registered data on beneficial owners cannot constitute an "inconsistency" within the meaning of Section 2(l) of the aforementioned Act where registration would interfere with the fundamental rights protected by Articles 7 and 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU.

Transfer of the Rights and Obligations of the Founder of a Foundation to Another Person

The Supreme Court's resolution of 12 September 2025, Case No **27 Cdo 2648/2024**, addresses one of the fundamental issues of foundation law, namely the possibility of transferring the rights and obligations of the founder of a foundation to another person. In line with the approach in countries with continental law and similar regulations on foundations (e.g., Austria or Switzerland), it concludes that the position of the founder of a foundation is fundamentally non-transferable to another person. The legal regulation of foundations does not allow the founder of a foundation to transfer their (highly personal) position as founder to another person.

Existence of an Obstacle to the Release of Land Under Section 11(1)(c) of the Land Act

In its judgment of 22 October 2025, Case No **28 Cdo 725/2025**, the Supreme Court concluded that in order to assess whether there is an obstacle under Section 11(1)(c) of the Act No 229/1991 Coll., preventing the release of land to the entitled person, the decisive factor is the situation at the time the entitled person's claim arose, which is not (and does not have to be) identical to the moment when the Act No 229/1991 Coll. entered into force and effect (24 June 1991). This may be the case, for example, with claims arising only upon the adoption of the Act No 243/1992 Coll., or established for entitled persons only in connection with the cancellation of the condition of permanent residence of the entitled person (by a ruling of the Constitutional Court published under No 29/1996 of the Coll.) or as a result of the adoption of the Act No 212/2000 Coll., which expanded the circle of eligible persons defined by the Act No 243/1992 Coll. As a result of the cited decision, it is necessary to assess the existence of an obstacle to the release of land under Section 11(1)(c) of the Land Act always in relation to the moment when the restitution claim of the eligible person arose. This moment does not always have to be the date of entry into force of the Land Act (24 June 1991), but may also be a later date. Therefore, even if there was no obstacle to the release of land at the beginning of the 1990s, the entitled person's claim for restitution cannot be granted if it arose only at the moment when the obstacle existed (the land was built on).

Limitation of the Liability to Compensate for Damage

In its judgment of 10 December 2025, Case No **28 Cdo 1551/2025**, the Supreme Court examined the possibility for contracting parties to limit their liability to compensate for damage. It held that agreements of such limitations bind the contracting parties even after withdrawal from the contract. At the same time, the Supreme Court stated that Section 2898 of the Civil Code is of mandatory nature, and therefore any legal conduct that violates the prohibition articulated therein constitutes an apparent legal conduct. In the absence of a different contractual arrangement, an agreement on the limitation of compensation for damage continues to bind the contracting parties even after withdrawal from the contract. The legal rule stating that agreements in advance excluding or limiting liability for damage caused intentionally or by gross negligence (Section 2898 of the Civil Code) are to be disregarded is mandatory. Any impermissible contractual limitation or exclusion of compensation for future damage therefore constitutes a non existent legal act.

Restitution of Unjust Enrichment for Unauthorised Use of Property

The judgment of the Supreme Court of 1 October 2025, Case No **28 Cdo 438/2025**, addresses a previously unresolved issue concerning the possibility for the owner of property to claim restitution for unjust enrichment arising from its unauthorised use against the actual user. The Supreme Court examined the facts of the case where the owner had granted the right of use to another entity which subsequently ceased to exist. Referring to elasticity of ownership rights, the Supreme Court held that, where there is no other entity entitled to use the property, it is the owner who is entitled to exercise ownership rights in their original scope, including the right to seek restitution of unjust enrichment for the unauthorised use of the property. Where no other entity is entitled to use the property or holds the property without legal grounds, the right to claim restitution of unjust enrichment for its unauthorised use from the "end user of the property" belongs to its owner.

Insolvency Administration of the Estate; Expenses Covered by the Remuneration of the Insolvency Administrator

In its resolution of 28 August 2025, Case No **29 NSCR 64/2024**, the Supreme Court examined in detail which expenses incurred by the insolvency administrator are covered by their remuneration and therefore are not to be reimbursed separately from the insolvency estate. Conducting incidental disputes (challenging the authenticity, amount, or order of a lodged claim), arising from the administrator's own act of denial, whether in the position of plaintiff [Section 199(1) of the Insolvency Act] or defendant [Section 198(1) of the Insolvency Act], belongs to the activities that the insolvency administrator is obliged to perform under the Insolvency Act. The expenses relating to such activities are covered by the insolvency administrator's remuneration and must, as a rule, be borne by the insolvency administrator themselves [Section 39(2), first sentence of the Insolvency Act]. These expenses also include fees for legal services provided by counsellor engaged by the insolvency administrator to represent them in incidental disputes he conducts. The court seized of insolvency proceedings and the creditors' committee may grant their approval, retrospectively, for the expenses of activities which the insolvency administrator is required to perform under the law or pursuant to a decision of the insolvency court, and which they have entrusted to third parties, to be paid out of the insolvency estate. Until such approval is granted, those expenses must be borne by the insolvency administrator themselves, as they are covered by their remuneration.

Liability of the State for Harm Caused by Including Communications with Defence Counsel and Irrelevant Private Information in a Criminal Case File

In a dispute between a formerly accused person and his wife on the one hand and the Czech Republic on the other, the Supreme Court, in its judgment of 16 April 2025, Case No **30 Cdo 1849/2024**, explained the proper procedure to be followed by the law enforcement authorities in a case where the contents of communication between the accused and his defence counsel, as well as private communication between the accused and his wife irrelevant for the criminal proceeding, including intimate photographs, are obtained from an electronic device seized from the accused. The European Court of Human Rights referred to this decision in its judgment of 18 December 2025 in the case of Černý and others v. the Czech Republic.

The Czech Television Does Not Exercise State Power

In its judgement of 14 October 2025, Case No **30 Cdo 735/2025**, the Supreme Court addressed the previously disputed legal nature of the Czech Television Council, in particular, whether it constitutes a body of the Czech Television and whether the Council exercises, in the course of its decision-making, State power. To the first part of the question, the Supreme Court replied in the affirmative. In contrast, in reply to the second problem, it held that a decision of the Czech Television Council to remove a member of the Council's Supervisory Commission does not constitute an exercise of State power.

Liability of the State for Loss of Profit Caused by Interference with the Right to Conduct a Business Through Crisis Measures During the COVID-19 Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the government adopted a number of measures pursuant to the Crisis Act that interfered with the right to conduct a business (in particular through the partial or complete closure of retail shops and other business premises). In its judgment of 26 November 2025, Case No **30 Cdo 2060/2024**, the Supreme Court concluded, contrary to numerous opinions expressed in legal doctrine, that the State is not liable to business entities for loss of profit resulting from such measures.

A Reasonable Period for Repayment of the Principal of a Consumer Credit

In its judgment of 13 August 2025, Case No **33 Cdo 1902/2025**, the Supreme Court stated that the consumer is obliged to plead and prove what constitutes, according to his or her financial capacity, a reasonable period for the repayment of the principal of a consumer credit [Section 87(1) of the Act No. 257/2016 Coll., on Consumer Credit, as amended].

Enforcement of a Decision and Annulment of an Arbitral Award

In its judgment of 17 September 2025, Case No **33 Cdo 2997/2024**, the Supreme Court held that the existence of pending enforcement proceedings is not a procedural condition for proceedings for the annulment of an arbitral award under Section 35(1) of the Act on Arbitration Proceedings, the absence of which (caused by the subsequent discontinuance of enforcement of the award) would require the proceedings to be discontinued.

Material and Immaterial Defects

In its judgment of 13 August 2025, Case No **33 Cdo 1902/2025**, the Supreme Court held that Section 1916(2) second sentence of the Civil Code does not distinguish between material and immaterial defects with regard to the waiver of rights arising from defective performance.

2. 4. The Criminal Division of the Supreme Court

2. 4. 1. Overview of the Decision-Making Activities of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court

In 2025, the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court (hereinafter also referred to as "the Criminal Division") was composed of the President of the Division and 22 other judges; in addition, two judges were temporarily assigned to the Supreme Court, one of whom became a judge of the Supreme Court on 1 July 2025 and the other started a one-year internship from that date. The Criminal Division judges are divided into seven Panels that constitute seven Judicial Departments. There is also a Grand Panel of the Criminal Division, a Records Panel and a separate Panel for appeals against decisions of the Supreme Audit Office's Disciplinary Chamber.

The President of the Criminal Division assigns each of the criminal cases to the seven Panels (hereinafter referred to as the "Panels") under the rules contained in the Supreme Court's Work Schedule. The managing President of the Panel assigns particular judges within the Panel to cases, also under the rules contained in the Work Schedule, which combine the principle of the specialised expertise of certain Panels with the principle of regular rotation. Three specialised Panels operate within the Criminal Division – one (No 8) considers cases heard under the Act No 218/2003 Coll., on Juvenile Justice, as amended, the second (No 5) specialises in economic and property crimes and the third (No 11) specialises in drug-related

criminal offences and cases concerning international judicial cooperation in criminal matters. However, each of these Panels also decides to some extent in criminal cases that do not fall within their specialisation. The Criminal Division's Panels usually decide in closed hearings, i.e., the accused, the defence counsel and the prosecutor are not present; they decide in a public hearing, where the parties are present, only in certain matters. In addition to decisions handed down by Panels of three judges in criminal cases, the Criminal Division also includes a Grand Panel of nine judges, with at least one member from each of the three-judge Panels.

The Supreme Court's key task is to unify the adjudicating practice of lower courts. In criminal matters, the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court is in charge of pursuing this task. To this end, the Act on Courts and Judges provides the Supreme Court with several tools. They primarily include decision-making on extraordinary remedies in the three-member Panels, and also decision-making in the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division, the adoption of Opinions by the Criminal Division and, finally, also the publication of the Collection and choosing the decisions to be included there.

2. 4. 1. 1. Deciding on Extraordinary Remedies

The Supreme Court is the most significant body among the ordinary courts of the Czech Republic (Article 92 of the Constitution of the Czech Republic). It is therefore empowered to decide on the most important extraordinary remedies; in criminal proceedings, these are extraordinary appeals and complaints on the violation of the law.

An extraordinary appeal is an extraordinary remedial measure which can be used to dispute a final and effective decision of a court of second instance on merits (Section 265a of the Code of Criminal Procedure), but only with reference to one of the grounds for extraordinary appeal listed exhaustively in Section 265b(1) and (2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The subject-matter of the extraordinary appeal proceedings is not a review of the facts in general, but only an examination of certain substantive legal and procedural issues in the contested decision or in the proceedings preceding it, including certain fundamental issues relating to taking of evidence. An extraordinary appeal may be lodged by the Prosecutor General and the competent authority of the European Public Prosecutor's Office, for the incorrectness of any operative part of a court's decision, both in favour of or against the accused, and also by the accused for the incorrectness of the operative part of a court's decision that directly affects them. An extraordinary appeal against the accused cannot be filed solely on the grounds that the court acted in accordance with Sections 259(4), 264(2), 273 or 289(b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The accused may file an extraordinary appeal only through a defence counsel; a submission made by the accused otherwise than through a defence counsel shall not be deemed to be an extraordinary appeal – if applicable, it will be treated as a different legal act based on its content. An extraordinary appeal must be lodged with the court which decided the case in the first instance within two months of receipt of a copy of the decision against which the extraordinary appeal is directed. The President of the Panel of the court of first instance shall deliver a copy of an extraordinary appeal of the accused to the Prosecutor General or to the competent authority of the European Public Prosecutor's Office and a copy of an extraordinary appeal of the Prosecutor General or of the competent authority of the European Public Prosecutor's Office to the defence counsel of the accused and to the accused with a notice that they may comment on the extraordinary appeal in writing and agree to the extraordinary appeal being tried in a closed hearing at the Supreme Court. Once the time limit for filing an extraordinary appeal has expired for all persons entitled to file such appeal, the court of first instance shall submit the file to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court shall reject an extraordinary appeal on the grounds set out exhaustively in Section 265i(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in particular, if certain formal conditions are not met, if the extraordinary appeal is brought on grounds other than those set out in the grounds for extraordinary appeal, or if the applicant repeats in the extraordinary appeal objections which have already been fully and substantively correctly dealt with by the courts of lower instances; the Supreme Court shall, in the reasoning of the resolution that rejected the extraordinary appeal, only briefly state the reason for the rejection of the extraordinary appeal by referring to the circumstances relating to the statutory ground for rejection. The Supreme Court shall, after a review, dismiss the extraordinary appeal if it finds that it is unsubstantiated (Section 265j of the Code of Criminal Procedure). If the Supreme Court does not reject or dismiss the extraordinary appeal, it shall review the contested decision and the proceedings preceding it only to the extent and on the grounds stated in the extraordinary appeal. Upon review, the Supreme Court shall annul the contested decision or part thereof, or, where appropriate, the erroneous proceedings preceding it, if it finds that the extraordinary appeal is substantiated. If, after annulling the contested decision or part thereof, it is necessary to make a new decision in the case, the Supreme Court shall, in principal, order the court whose decision is at hand to reconsider and decide the case to the extent necessary (Section 265k of the Code of Criminal Procedure). The court or other investigative and prosecuting authorities to which the case has been referred to a new hearing and decision is bound by the legal opinion of the Supreme Court (Section 265s(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure). If the contested decision has been annulled only as a result of an extraordinary appeal brought in favour of the accused, the decision cannot be changed to their disadvantage in the new proceedings (Section 265s(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure). However, the Supreme Court may also immediately decide on the case by issuing a judgment if it annuls the contested decision, unless prohibited by the law (Section 265m of the Code of Criminal Procedure).

The other extraordinary remedy admissible before the Supreme Court is a complaint on the violation of the law. Only the Minister of Justice is entitled to file this extraordinary remedy, directed against a court's or a prosecutor's final decision which violated the law or which was made on the basis of an erroneous course of action in the proceedings, or if the sentence is manifestly disproportionate to the nature and gravity of the offence or to the perpetrator's personal state of affairs, or if the nature of the imposed sentence is manifestly contrary to the purpose of the punishment (Section 266(1) and (2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure). A complaint on the violation of the law against a final court decision to the detriment of the accused may not be filed solely on the grounds that the court proceeded in line with Section 259(4), Section

273 or Section 289(b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In the event of a complaint on the violation of the law being filed to the detriment of the accused and following the finding that the law was violated, but not in disfavour of the accused, only the so-called "academic ruling" can be issued, but the contested decision or the preceding proceedings which violated the law cannot be annulled. The Supreme Court dismisses the complaints on the violation of the law if they are inadmissible or unfounded [Section 268(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure]. If the Supreme Court finds that the law was violated, it holds so in its judgment [Section 268(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure]. If the law was violated in disfavour of the accused, the Supreme Court annuls, simultaneously with holding as above under Section 268(2) Code of Criminal Procedure, the challenged decision or a part thereof and potentially also the erroneous proceedings preceding the decision. If only one of the operative parts in the challenged decision is unlawful, and if such operative part can be separated from the other operative parts, the Supreme Court annuls only that operative part of the decision (Section 269 of the Code of Criminal Procedure). Where a new decision has to be issued following the annulment of the challenged decision or any of its operative parts, the Supreme Court orders the authority, usually the one whose decision is in question, to hear the case again in the required scope and to decide. The authority to which the case is referred to is bound by the Supreme Court's legal opinion (Section 270 of the Code of Criminal Procedure). When annulling the challenged decision, the Supreme Court itself can decide on the merits if a decision can be issued on the basis of the facts that were correctly established in the challenged decision (Section 271 of the Code of Criminal Procedure). Where the Supreme Court holds that the law was violated in disfavour of the accused, in the new proceedings the decision must not be modified in disfavour of the accused (Section 273 of the Code of Criminal Procedure).

2. 4. 1. 2. Agendas of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court According to the Relevant Registers

The judges of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court are empowered by the legislation mentioned below to take decisions within the scope of the following agendas in Panels mainly composed of the President of the Panel and two judges:

Tdo
– decisions on extraordinary appeals against final decisions of courts of second instance on the merits (Section 265a *et seq.* of the Code of Criminal Procedure);

Tcu
– decisions on applications to record data on the conviction of a Czech citizen by a foreign court in the Criminal Records [Section 4(2), (3), (4) of the Act No 269/1994 Coll., on the Criminal Records, as amended],
– decisions on applications in accordance with the Act No 104/2013 Coll., on International Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters, as amended [e.g., on applications of the Ministry of Justice to review decisions on the exclusion of the extradited person from the competence of the investigative, prosecuting and adjudicating authorities in accordance with Section 89(2) of the above Act; on applications for a decision on whether the extradited person is exempted from the competence of the investigative, prosecuting and adjudicating authorities in accordance with Sections 92(6) and 95(2) of the above Act; on applications of the Minister of Justice to review a decision on the admissibility of extradition of a person for prosecution to a foreign State in accordance with Section 95(5), (6) of the above Act; on applications for a decision on whether the person against whom a recognised foreign decision is directed is exempted from the competence of the investigative, prosecuting and adjudicating authorities in accordance with Section 120(5) of the above Act; on applications of the Minister of Justice to review a court decision on the recognition and enforcement of a foreign decision imposing an unconditional sentence of imprisonment or a protective measure involving deprivation of liberty in accordance with Section 128 of the above Act; on applications to take a surrendered person into transit detention for the period of transit through the territory of the Czech Republic in accordance with Section 143(4) of the above Act; on refusals to hand over information classified under the Classified Information Protection Act to an international court in accordance with Section 158(1), (2) of the above Act, etc.],
– decisions on applications for decision whether a certain person is excluded from the competence of the investigative, prosecuting and adjudicating authorities, if there is any doubt about it [Section 10(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure];

Tz
– decisions on complaints on the violation of the law, filed by the Minister of Justice against prosecutors' and courts' decisions in proceedings held under the rules of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Section 266 *et seq.* of the Code of Criminal Procedure);

Td
– resolution of disputes over jurisdiction between lower courts, if the Supreme Court is the nearest jointly superior court in relation thereto (Section 24 of the Code of Criminal Procedure),
– decisions on applications for removal and referral of a case, if the Supreme Court is the nearest jointly superior court (Section 25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure),
– decisions on applications to exclude Supreme Court judges from hearing and deciding on a case [Section 31(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure];

Tvo
– decisions on complaints against high courts' decisions to extend custody pursuant to Section 74 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and against other decisions of high courts handing down decisions as a court of first instance (e.g., on complaints against decisions to exclude high court judges from the execution of acts in criminal proceedings pursuant to Sections 30 and 31 of the Code of Criminal Procedure);

Tul
– decisions on applications for a time limit to be set for the conduct of a procedural act (Section 174a of the Act on Courts and Judges);

Zp
– decisions on appeals against decisions of the Disciplinary Chamber of the Supreme Audit Office [Section 43(2) of the Act No 166/1993 Coll., on the Supreme Audit Office, as amended];

Pzo
– decisions on applications for a review of the legality of an order to intercept and record telecommunications traffic and an order to obtain data on telecommunications traffic (Sections 314l to 314n of the Code of Criminal Procedure).

Skno
– decision-making under the Act No 7/2002 Coll., on Proceedings in Matters Concerning Judges, Prosecutors and Bailiffs, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "Act No 7/2002 Coll."), in proceedings on appeals lodged against decisions of the High Courts in matters concerning judges of the Supreme Administrative Court, as well as judges other than those adjudicating exclusively in administrative justice.

2. 4. 2. Unifying Activities of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court

The lower courts' adjudicating practice is unified primarily through decisions on the above-mentioned extraordinary remedies in specific criminal cases, with the Supreme Court setting forth binding legal opinions in its decisions; lower courts and other investigating or prosecuting authorities are bound by such legal opinions and these authorities follow such opinions, if applicable, in other similar cases. The Supreme Court usually decides on extraordinary appeals and complaints on the violation of the law in three-member Panels composed of the President of the Panel and another two professional judges, exceptionally, it is the Criminal Division's Grand Panel that decides the case.

A case will be referred to the Grand Panel when, in its decision-making, a three-member Panel has arrived at a legal opinion differing from the opinion already expressed in any of the Supreme Court's earlier decisions; the Panel must justify such different legal opinion (Section 20 of the Act on Courts and Judges).

The above procedure should be used to refer a case to the Criminal Division's Grand Panel, in particular, where the contentious issue concerns substantive law. Where a legal opinion on procedural law is at issue, the three-member Panel may only refer the case to the Criminal Division's Grand Panel if it has concluded unanimously (by votes of all Panel members) that the procedural question at issue is of fundamental importance. However, a referral to the Criminal Division's Grand Panel is out of the question if the issue at hand has already been resolved by the Opinion of the Criminal Division or of the Plenary Session of the Supreme Court. The Criminal Division's Grand Panel always decides on the merits of the case, i.e., on the extraordinary remedy filed, unless it exceptionally concludes that no reason for referring the case to the Criminal Division's Grand Panel existed; in such cases, it refers back the case without deciding on the merits to the Panel that (groundlessly) referred the case to it. It is debatable whether this practice should be preserved. An alternative to this practice is the opinion that the Criminal

Division's Grand Panel should decide only on the solution of the submitted legal question at hand and that any subsequent decisions on the merits should be made by the competent three-member Panel which had originally been assigned the case. Moreover, there is no explicit provision as to whether and how the Criminal Division's Grand Panel may change its existing legal opinion expressed in an earlier decision.

In 2025, the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division issued two resolutions in Tdo cases, namely the resolution of 29 January 2025, Case No 15 Tdo 1111/2024, and the resolution of 28 May 2025, Case No 15 Tdo 287/2025. For the decisions of the Grand Panel, see chapter 2.4.4.2 below. In addition, two further cases were submitted to the Grand Panel for decision in 2025, one under Case No 15 Tdo 1005/2025 and the other under Case No 15 Tdo 1037/2025, but by the end of 2025, the Grand Panel has not issued a decision in either case.

All decisions of the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, as well as all decisions of the three-member Panels, are published in an anonymised form on the Supreme Court's website www.nsoud.cz, which also contributes to the unification of decision-making practice in criminal cases.

The Criminal Division of the Supreme Court also has a Records Panel, which is composed of its President and eight other judges of the Criminal Division. The Records Panel meets to discuss the proposals for the decisions of Panels of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court and decisions of lower courts in criminal cases that have been recommended to be generalised and to be discussed by the Criminal Division regarding the approval of their publication in the Collection. The Records Panel decides which of the decisions it discusses will be referred to the next approval process, i.e., sent to the relevant authorities and institutions for comments and then submitted at a meeting of the Criminal Division. The Records Panel of the Criminal Division also considers other materials on the proposal of the President of the Criminal Division or the President of the Records Panel, in particular applications for the Criminal Division to adopt an Opinion on the decision-making activities of courts and drafts of such Opinions. In 2025, a total of seven meetings of the Records Panel of the Criminal Division were held, at which about 119 decisions of the Supreme Court and lower courts, and some other materials and applications were discussed (sometimes repeatedly).

Decisions of the Supreme Court and of other criminal courts, which have been considered and recommended for publication in the Collection by the Criminal Division's Records Panel, are submitted for consideration and approval at a meeting of the judges of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, which is convened and chaired by the President of the Criminal Division for that purpose. Prior to the meeting, comments are made on the proposals for the publication of the decision by commenting entities, which are the regional and high courts (the Municipal Court in Prague), the Prosecutor General's Office, the law faculties of universities, the Czech Bar Association, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of the Interior, the Institute of State and Law of the Academy of Sciences, the Institute for Criminology and Social Prevention, the Supreme Administrative Court and, depending on the nature of the decision, certain other institutions and bodies. Publication

of a decision in the Collection requires the approval of a majority of all judges of the Criminal Division. In 2025, a total of six meetings of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court were held, at which a total of 72 decisions were discussed (some of them repeatedly), of which the judges of the Criminal Division approved a total of 59 decisions for publication in the Collection. In 2025, no suggestions to adopt an Opinion were discussed.

Another important tool for unifying the practice of lower courts and other investigating and prosecuting authorities is the adoption of the Supreme Court Criminal Division's Opinions on court decisions on matters of a certain nature [Section 14(3) of the Act on Courts and Judges]. Debate on an Opinion in the Criminal Division is preceded by drafting the Opinion by the mandated member(s) of the Criminal Division; then followed by a commenting procedure to collect comments on the draft Opinion from the commenting entities, which are the same entities as those mentioned above in relation to the deciding on publication of the decisions in the Collection, or, depending on the nature and importance of the issues at stake, other bodies or institutions. The draft Opinion is then considered by the Records Panel and later approved at a Criminal Division meeting, which is quorate if attended by a two-thirds majority of all members of the Supreme Court's Criminal Division. A simple majority of votes of all Criminal Division members is required to pass an Opinion of the Supreme Court's Criminal Division and then publish it in the Collection.

Every approved Opinion of the Supreme Court's Criminal Division is published in the Collection and is also posted in electronic form on the Supreme Court's website.

2. 4. 3. Statistical Data on the Activities of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court

The first table represents an overview of the decision-making activity of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court in 2025 in all of its agendas. The first column points out the amount of cases in each particular agenda pending from the previous year 2024. Similarly, the last column shows the number of cases that were not resolved by 31 December 2025.

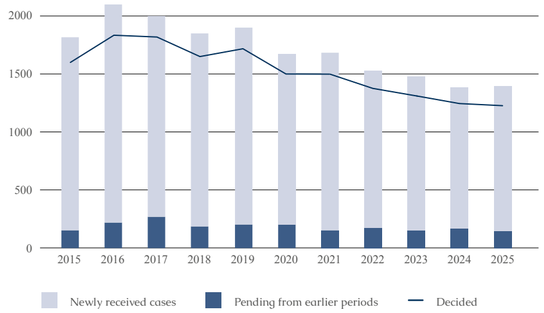
	Pending from earlier periods	Newly received cases	Decided	Pending
Tdo	138	1,191	1,167	162
Tcu	10	110	115	5
Tz	6	49	44	11
Td	3	55	56	2
Tvo	2	20	20	2
Tul	0	3	3	0
Zp	0	0	0	0
Pzo	4	8	12	0

Overview of the development of the agenda of the Criminal Division

The following table and the following graph trace the development of statistical data of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court over a longer period of time.

Year	Pending from earlier periods	Newly received cases	Decided	Pending
2015	159	1,662	1,597	224
2016	224	1,877	1,829	272
2017	272	1,722	1,815	179
2018	179	1,676	1,651	204
2019	204	1,699	1,706	197
2020	197	1,459	1,498	158
2021	158	1,519	1,505	172
2022	172	1,343	1,364	151
2023	151	1,315	1,299	167
2024	167	1,206	1,229	144
2025	144	1,240	1,211	173

The sum of the Tdo and Tz agendas 2015–2025



The graph illustrates the statistical development of cases received in all the agendas of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court over a relatively long period of time of 2015 to 2025. It clearly indicates that the total number of cases pending from previous periods has been relatively stable, but at the same time the graph shows that the highest number of submissions to the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court over the entire period under review were received in 2016 and 2017, the situation calmed down a little in 2018. From 2020 to 2024, there was a certain decrease in the total number of cases submitted and dealt with. In

2025, compared to 2024, there was a slight decrease in the number of cases pending from earlier periods and decided, but at the same time there was an increase in the number of newly received cases. It should be noted that the graph simply adds all the agendas, although the complexity of the different agendas differs significantly.

2. 4. 4. Selection of Important Decisions of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court Issued or Published in 2025

2. 4. 4. 1. Opinions of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court Published in the Collection

No Opinion was issued in 2025.

2. 4. 4. 2. Decisions of the Criminal Division's Grand Panel Issued in 2025

In 2025, the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court issued two decisions. The first decision is a resolution of 29 January 2025, Case No **15 Tdo 1111/2024**, which rejected the accused's extraordinary appeal pursuant to Section 265i(1)(e) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. This decision has not yet been published in the Collection, nor has it been included in the Criminal Division's meetings due to its review by the Constitutional Court, which has not yet ruled on the matter. In its decision, the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division concluded that it is not excluded to commit the criminal offences of Conferring an Advantage in Public Procurement, Public Tender and Public Auction under Section 256 of the Criminal Code and Accepting a Bribe under Section 331 of the Criminal Code in a concurrence committed by a single act, thereby unifying the previously differing opinions of the individual Panels of the Supreme Court. The second decision is the resolution of the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court of 28 May 2025, Case No **15 Tdo 287/2025**, in which the Grand Panel concluded that the conditions set out in Section 20(1) of the Act on Courts and Judges, as amended, for the submission of the case to the Grand Panel were not fulfilled, and decided that Panel No 7 of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, which submitted the case to the Grand Panel, should re-examine the case and decide on it. Panel No 7 then decided on the matter by a resolution of 30 July 2025, Case No **7 Tdo 643/2025**, and this resolution is included below in subchapter 2. 4. 4. 4.

2. 4. 4. 3. Selected Decisions Approved by the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court for Publication in the Collection and Issued or Published in 2025

Among the significant decisions approved for publication by the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court and issued and/or published in 2025 in the criminal section of the Collection, the following are worth noting.

On the Question When the Defendant's Declaration of Guilt and the Court's Acceptance of This Declaration Pursuant to Section 206c(1) (4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure Cannot Be Taken into Account When Repeating the Entire Main Hearing

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 23 April 2024, Case No **3 Tdo 269/2024**, published under No 1/2025 of the Collection, addresses the question of how to proceed with a declaration of guilt accepted by the court if it is necessary to repeat the entire main hearing, including a new presentation of the indictment (e.g. due to a change in the composition of the Panel). In its decision, the Supreme Court concluded that such a declaration and its acceptance by the court in the previous main hearing cannot be taken into account. The restriction under Section 206c(7) of the Code of Criminal Procedure does not apply in this case.

On the Consequences of Incorrect Designation of an Procedural Act in a Court Decision on the Basis of Which a House Search or Search of Other Premises and Land Is to Be Carried Out

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 26 March 2024, Case No **11 Tdo 193/2024**, published under No 2/2025 of the Collection, deals with the issue of the legality and procedural applicability of a procedural act consisting of a house search or search of other premises and land in the situation that this act was incorrectly designated in the court decision on the basis of which the search is to be carried out, if such incorrect designation is due to an erroneous assessment of the legal nature of the property in which the search is to be carried out. The Supreme Court concluded that such incorrect designation does not in itself render the procedural act unlawful and procedurally inadmissible in further proceedings in terms of its evidentiary value. However, this only applies provided that all legal conditions for conducting such a search have been met from a material point of view.

On the Breach of an Important Obligation as a Circumstance Conditioning the Application of a Higher Maximum Penalty Pursuant to Section 143(2) of the Criminal Code or Section 147(2) of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 16 May 2024, Case No **6 Tdo 346/2024**, published under No 5/2025 of the Collection, states the opinion that the circumstance consisting in a breach of an important obligation within the meaning of Section 143(2) of the Criminal Code or Section 147(2) of the Criminal Code, which conditions the application of a higher maximum penalty, may be fulfilled by a motor vehicle driver who has cumulatively and with greater intensity violated several legal obligations (e.g. by driving at a speed of around 100 km/h in a built-up area while failing to maintain a safe distance from another vehicle and driving incorrectly in the lanes). According to the Supreme Court, this circumstance is not excluded even if the injured party themselves contributed to the accident and its consequences by violating their own obligations (e.g. by illegally crossing the road at a pedestrian crossing with a "Stop" sign).

On the Question of Who Is to Be Served in the Proceedings Against a Legal Entity Pursuant to Section 34(8) of the Act on Criminal Liability of Legal Entities and Proceedings Against Them and Section 130(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and on the Perpetration of the Of-

fence of Unauthorised Entrepreneurship Pursuant to Section 251 of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 30 May 2024, Case No **5 Tdo 409/2024**, published under No 7/2025 of the Collection contains two legal sentences. The first deals with the issue of serving a judgment in criminal proceedings against a legal entity and concludes that, pursuant to Section 34(8) of the Act on Criminal Liability of Legal Entities and Proceedings Against Them (hereinafter the "Act on Criminal Liability of Legal Entities") and Section 130(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the judgment is to be served both to the accused legal entity and to its guardian, if one has been appointed. In the case of a non-functional accused legal entity that has no statutory body, employees, or other person acting on its behalf, delivery to the guardian is sufficient. The second legal sentence of the decision deals with the question of who can commit the offence of Unauthorised Entrepreneurship under Section 251(1) of the Criminal Code. The Supreme Court concludes that, subject to the fulfilment of other conditions, this offence may also be committed by a person who, in violation of the provisions of Section 2(2)(b) of the Act No 85/1996 Coll., on Attorneys, as amended, as an employee of a cooperative provides legal services not only to the cooperative but also to its members, especially if the cooperative was established precisely for the purpose of providing such services to its members by the perpetrator as its employee.

On the Question of What May Constitute Gross Obstruction of the Performance of the Duties of an Insolvency Administrator within the Meaning of Section 225 of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 21 August 2024, Case No **5 Tdo 551/2024**, published under No 8/2025 of the Collection, concludes that gross obstruction of the performance of the duties of an insolvency administrator under Section 225 of the Criminal Code also includes an act causing the need for substantially increased activity or extraordinary efforts than those normally carried out by the insolvency administrator in the performance of their duties. According to the Supreme Court, the normal duties of an insolvency administrator include, inter alia, the filing of a petition with the insolvency court for a decision ordering an interim measure concerning the further disposal of immovable property by a certain person.

On the Objective Element of the Criminal Offence of Accepting a Bribe Under Section 331(1) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code and the Criminal Offence of Bribery Under Section 332(1) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code

In the resolution of the Supreme Court of 19 June 2024, Case No **7 Tdo 445/2024**, published under No 12/2025 of the Collection, the Supreme Court stated that in order to commit the criminal offence of Accepting a Bribe under Section 331(1) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code or the offence of Bribery under Section 332(1) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code, it is not sufficient that the provision or acceptance of the bribe has led to the unlawful act of the person bribed, but it is required that it has occurred in connection with the procurement of matters of general interest by that person. Therefore, the objective element of the offence cannot be fulfilled by an act whereby a person, for example, undergoes a COVID-19 test in return for a payment made by another person, during which they pretend to be the other person, who thereby wrongfully obtains an official certificate confirming that they have suffered this disease. The connection with the procurement of a matter of general interest would only be relevant in the case of a bribe aimed at influencing the activities of the employees of the medical establishment who carried out the test in question or issued the official certificate of its result.

On the Question of the Representation of an Injured Party Over 15 and Under 18 Years of Age, Who Is a Child of the Accused, in Giving Consent to Prosecution Under Section 163(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 26 March 2024, Case No **11 Tdo 8/2024**, published under No 13/2025 of the Collection, expresses the opinion that an injured party over 15 and under 18 years of age, who is the child of the accused, must be represented by a guardian [Section 45(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure], whose acts are not subject to the approval of the guardianship court, when giving consent to prosecution under Section 163(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Interpretation of the Element of the Criminal Offence of Intentional Bodily Harm Under Section 146(1) of the Criminal Code Consisting in Its Commission Against a Pregnant Woman

In the Supreme Court's resolution of 17 May 2023, Case No **8 Tdo 391/2023**, published under No 14/2025 of the Collection, an interpretation is made of the aggravating element of the criminal offence of Intentional Bodily Harm under Section 146(1) of the Criminal Code consisting in its "commission against a pregnant woman" under Section 146(2)(a) of the Criminal Code. The Supreme Court concluded that in order to fulfil this aggravating element, it is not necessary for the perpetrator to attack the foetus, nor for the pregnancy of the injured woman to be the reason for the attack.

On Fulfilling the Elements of the Criminal Offence of Obstruction of the Enforcement of an Official Decision and Eviction Pursuant to Section 337(1)(c) of the Criminal Code in Conjunction with Violation of the Penalty of Prohibition of Residence Pursuant to Section 75 of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 22 August 2024, Case No **6 Tdo 692/2024**, was published under No 17/2025 of the Collection with two legal sentences and dealt with the criminal offence of Obstruction of the Enforcement of an Official Decision and Eviction pursuant to Section 337(1)(c) of the Criminal Code in conjunction with the penalty of prohibition of residence pursuant to Section 75 of the Criminal Code. The first legal sentence states that the elements of this criminal offence

may also be fulfilled by the perpetrator's short-term stay in a place to which the penalty of prohibition of residence imposed on them applies, provided that other conditions are met. The purpose of the penalty of prohibition of residence, as stated in the second legal sentence, is not only to prevent the perpetrator from being in an environment that could tempt them to commit further criminal acts. It is also to protect a certain environment that the perpetrator could endanger through their activities.

The Imposition of Protective Measure to Seize an Item Pursuant to Section 101(1) and (2) of the Criminal Code; the Disposal of Temporary Seized Item Pursuant to Sections 80 and 81 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; the Procedure Pursuant to Section 101(4)(a) of the Criminal Code Consisting in the Alteration of an Item; and the Impossibility of Making a Cassation Ruling in Proceedings Concerning a Complaint on the Violation of the Law, if the Law Was Violated in Relation to a Person Other Than the Accused

The Supreme Court's judgment of 25 July 2024, Case No **5 Tz 17/2024**, published under No 22/2025 of the Collection, had a total of four legal sentences. Its first legal sentence provides that a protective measure in the form of seizure of an item pursuant to Section 101(1) or (2) of the Criminal Code may be imposed on a person other than the perpetrator (i.e. the person involved) only at the request of the prosecutor (see decision published under No 26/2024 of the Collection). According to the conclusion of the second legal sentence, before deciding what to do with the temporarily seized item, if it is not appropriate to return it, it is necessary to reliably determine who the item belongs to. If it is a criminally liable perpetrator who is subject to punishment, then in principle the imposition of a penalty of forfeiture of the item may be considered; if it is another person, the imposition of a protective measure of seizure of the item may be considered. If the item was temporarily seized from a victim of fraud who acquired it from the perpetrator in a fraudulent sale as a result of a mistake caused or exploited by the perpetrator, it is necessary to assess, before deciding how to deal with it, whether it still, at the time of the court's decision, belongs to the deceived acquirer, or whether it belongs to the perpetrator as a result of the effective application of an objection of invalidity by the deceived party pursuant to Section 586 of the Civil Code or Section 40a of the former Civil Code (e.g. in the case of a simultaneous claim in adhesion procedure for the surrender of unjust enrichment corresponding to the fraudulently obtained purchase price). The third legal sentence of this decision states that the procedure under Section 101(4)(a) of the Criminal Code, consisting in the alteration of an item (e.g., permanently labelling a forged painting as a forgery), takes precedence over the imposition of a protective measure to seize the item (e.g. a forged painting) due to the principle of proportionality, if it is also capable of achieving the intended purpose of protecting the society. Finally, the fourth legal sentence of the decision contains a procedural legal conclusion according to which the annulment of the decision challenged by the complaint on the violation of the law under Section 269(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure is not applicable if the law was violated in relation to a person other than the accused.

On the Inability of a Subsequently Chosen or Appointed Defence Counsel to Lodge a Complaint Against an Already Final Decision on the Initiation of Criminal Prosecution

Resolution of the Supreme Court of 2 October 2024, Case No **4 Tz 43/2024**, published under No 24/2025 of the Collection, expresses the opinion that a defence counsel, who was subsequently chosen by the accused or appointed during the investigation on the grounds of the necessity of defence under Section 36(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, following the aggravation of the legal qualification of the offence and the procedure under Section 160(6) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, is not entitled to lodge a complaint on behalf of the accused against a final resolution initiating criminal proceedings. This applies even if the original less severe legal qualification of the offence not giving rise to the necessary defence was in that resolution determined incorrectly.

Counting of Endangered Persons for the Purpose of Fulfilling the Element of "Exposing People to Danger of Death or Grievous Bodily Harm" in the Criminal Offence of Public Endangerment Under Section 272(1) of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 28 August 2024, Case No **8 Tdo 598/2024**, published under No 27/2025 of the Collection, addresses the question of when the requirement of endangering at least seven people is met (see decisions published under No 39/1982 and No 46/2014 of the Collection) for the fulfilment of the element of „exposing people to danger of death or grievous bodily harm" in the criminal offence of Public Endangerment under Section 272(1) of the Criminal Code, if it was committed by the perpetrator after consuming alcoholic beverages in connection with their dangerous driving of a car. In this decision, the Supreme Court concludes that the above requirement is also met by including in the required number not only direct participants in road traffic or other persons endangered by the perpetrator's actions, but also persons constituting the crew of this car, even if they entered it voluntarily and knew that the perpetrator had consumed alcoholic beverages before driving.

Involvement of More Than One Person in the Commission of the Negligent Criminal Offence and the Criminal Offence of Negligent Public Endangerment Under Section 273 of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 18 September 2024, Case No **4 Tdo 621/2024**, published under No 32/2025 of the Collection, deals in its first legal sentence with the general question of the perpetration of negligent criminal offences. The Supreme Court states that a negligent criminal offence may be committed by a single perpetrator, and that no distinction is made between forms of criminal cooperation, i.e. neither complicity (Section 23 of the Criminal Code), nor participation (Section 24 of the Criminal Code), nor direct and indirect perpetration [Section 22(2) of the Criminal Code]. In the case of each person who is to be held guilty of a negligent criminal offence, it is assessed separately whether they contributed causally to the consequence by their negligent conduct, even though the causation of the consequence depended on the

conduct of other persons. According to the conclusion expressed in the second legal sentence of the decision, in the case of the commission of the criminal offence of negligent Public Endangerment under Section 273 of the Criminal Code, the perpetrator may also be blamed for causing the death of another person [within the meaning of Section 273(3)(a) or (4) of the Criminal Code] who was themself involved in the act and who, if it was not for their death, could otherwise also be described as the perpetrator of the offence of negligent Public Endangerment.

Local Jurisdiction of the Court Pursuant to Section 18(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure According to the Place Where the Offence Came to Light

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 4 December 2024, Case No **7 Td 47/2024**, published under No 34/2025 of the Collection, expresses the opinion that the local jurisdiction of the court in whose district the offence came to light pursuant to Section 18(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure is based on the place where the police authority or prosecutor first learned of the commission of the criminal offence.

On the Question of the Fulfilment of the Element of Abuse; on the Description of the Act; on the Applicability of the Expert's Opinion; and on the Exclusion of the Expert from Giving an Expert Opinion

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 27 March 2024, Case No **5 Tdo 120/2024**, published under No 35/2025 of the Collection, contains four legal sentences. In the first of them, the Supreme Court deals with the question of the concurrence of the criminal offence of Abuse of a Person Entrusted to One's Care under Section 198 of the Criminal Code and the criminal offence of Abuse of a Person Living in a Common Dwelling pursuant to Section 199 of the Criminal Code. The Supreme Court concluded that conduct fulfilling the element of abuse, which the perpetrator primarily directs against an adult (e.g., a partner) living with them in a shared dwelling within the meaning of Section 199 of the Criminal Code and which at the same time also affects a minor entrusted to their care within the meaning of Section 198 of the Criminal Code indirectly in such a way that they perceive it as a serious distress, is a single act that should be assessed as a concurrence that is committed by a single act, constituting both the criminal offence of Abuse of a Person Entrusted to One's Care under Section 198 of the Criminal Code and the criminal offence of Abuse of a Person Living in a Common Dwelling under Section 199 of the Criminal Code. This conclusion applies even though, in general, the special nature of the first-mentioned provision precludes the concurrence of the two offences (if it concerns the abuse of the same person who is both a ward and a cohabitant). The second legal sentence of the decision states that if, in criminal proceedings concerning a single act originally legally classified as criminal offences under both Section 198 and Section 199 of the Criminal Code, it is established that the elements of one of the aforementioned criminal offences are not fulfilled, the description of the act must be duly modified in the pronouncement of guilt so as to reflect the legal classification of the criminal offence whose elements are found to be fulfilled. It is not possible, however, to decide on such an act by an acquittal of the criminal offence whose elements have not been found (these are merely omitted,

and the reasoning explains such a modification of the description of the act and the legal qualification – see, similarly, the decision published under No 11/2010 of the Collection). The third legal sentence provides that an expert's opinion obtained prior to the initiation of criminal proceedings under Section 158(3)(b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure is subsequently usable as evidence in the proceedings before the court, even if it was not an urgent or unrepeatable act under Section 160(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The fourth legal sentence of the decision deals with the question of the exclusion of an expert in the field of medicine, subfield of psychiatry or psychology, from giving an expert opinion solely because they have examined several persons in the same case or because they have examined the same person or a person close to them in another case, with the Supreme Court concluding that such an expert is not excluded and that, on the contrary, their involvement may seem appropriate for the possibility of a comprehensive assessment of the case and cost-effective for the examination of identical materials.

Admissibility of an Appeal Filed by a Prosecutor Against a Judgment Approving a Plea Bargain Pursuant to Section 314r(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, in the Absence of the Scope and Manner of Compensation for Damage, Non-Material Harm, or the Surrender of Unjust Enrichment in the Agreed Plea Bargain

The Supreme Court's resolution of 16 October 2024, Case No **7 Tz 46/2024**, published under No 36/2025 of the Collection, addresses the question of whether a prosecutor may challenge a judgment approving a plea bargain pursuant to Section 314r(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure by means of an appeal pursuant to Section 245(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In this decision, the Supreme Court concludes that the only reason justifying a prosecutor to appeal against such a judgment is a situation where the judgment approving the plea bargain is contrary to the agreed plea bargain. However, the prosecutor is not entitled to lodge an appeal on the grounds of incorrectness of the ruling on the injured party's claim under Section 228 or Section 229 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, nor on the grounds that no such ruling was made, if the plea bargain did not specify the extent and manner of compensation for damage or non-material harm or the surrender of unjust enrichment.

On the Concurrence of Criminal Offences of Bodily Harm Under Section 146 of the Criminal Code and Extortion Under Section 175 of the Criminal Code, and on Issues Related to the Prosecutor's Instruction to Initiate Criminal Proceedings Under Section 158(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, or to Initiate Criminal Prosecution Under Section 160(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The judgment of the Supreme Court of 23 October 2024, Case No **4 Tdo 755/2024**, published under No 37/2025 of the Collection, has two legal sentences, the first of which concerns the concurrence of criminal offences of Bodily Harm pursuant to Section 146 of the Criminal Code and Extortion pursuant to Section 175 of the Criminal Code. The Supreme Court concluded that the concurrence of these criminal offences in a single act is not excluded, also with reference to earlier case law

(see decision published under No 56/1980-I. of the Collection). In the second legal sentence, the Supreme Court defines the procedural differences between the supervising prosecutor's instruction to the police authority to initiate criminal proceedings under Section 158(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure and the instruction to initiate criminal prosecution under Section 160(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure in the context of deciding on a complaint filed by the accused against a resolution to initiate criminal prosecution, which has an impact on the functional jurisdiction of the supervising prosecutor or their superior. If the supervising prosecutor referred the criminal case to the competent police authority with an instruction to initiate criminal proceedings within the meaning of Section 158(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, but not to initiate criminal prosecution pursuant to Section 160(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and at the same time, the content of the supervisory file does not indicate that such a prosecutor has instructed or consented to the initiation of criminal prosecution, this means that there was no reason in the case for the prosecutor superior to the supervising prosecutor to decide on the accused's complaint against the decision to initiate criminal prosecution within the meaning of Section 146(2)(a) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

On Defining the Range of Suppliers and Competitors Affected by the Criminal Offence of Conferring an Advantage in Public Procurement, Public Tender and Public Auction Pursuant to Section 256(1) of the Criminal Code; on the Range of Perpetrators of the Criminal Offence of Damage to the Financial Interests of the European Union Pursuant to Section 260(1) of the Criminal Code; on the Criminal Liability of a Contracting Authority Employee for a Criminal Offence Pursuant to Section 260 of the Criminal Code; on the Assessment of a Preliminary Question Concerning the Involvement of Another Person Not Yet Prosecuted in the Criminal Proceedings in Criminal Activity; and on the Definition of the Range of Persons Obliged to Either Compensate for Damage Caused by the Criminal Offence of Damage to the Financial Interests of the European Union or Subsidy Fraud or to Surrender Unjust Enrichment Obtained by This Criminal Offence

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 29 November 2023, Case No **5 Tdo 995/2023**, was published under No 38/2025 of the Collection with five legal sentences. In the first legal sentence, the Supreme Court specifies in more detail the range of persons from among suppliers or competitors at whose expense the criminal offence of Conferring an Advantage in Public Procurement, Public Tender and Public Auction pursuant to Section 256(1) of the Criminal Code may be committed. According to the Supreme Court, it includes not only suppliers or competitors who directly bid for a public contract or participate in a public tender, but also mere hypothetical suppliers or competitors who could potentially bid for a public contract or participate in a public tender but did not do so for various reasons. This reason may be, for example, the fact that the perpetrator, through unlawful conduct, gave another supplier or competitor priority or more favourable conditions. The second legal sentence of the cited decision deals with the subject of the criminal offence of Damage to the Financial Interests of the European Union pursuant to Section 260(1) of the Criminal Code. The Supreme Court concluded that this criminal offence does not require any special characteristics, status, or capacity of the subject. Anyone can commit this criminal offence as a perpetrator or accomplice, including a person who is not an applicant for a subsidy. The third legal sentence follows on from the existing case law of the Supreme Court (see decision published under No 34/2024) and concluded that a contracting authority employee was also criminally liable for the criminal offence of Damage to the Financial Interests of the European Union pursuant to Section 260 of the Criminal Code if they participated in the unlawful influencing of the award of a public contract by an administrator authorized by the contracting authority. The fourth legal sentence of the resolution applies to situations where it is necessary to resolve the issue of the involvement of another person, who is not being prosecuted in the criminal proceedings, in the criminal activity of the accused. The Supreme Court concludes that the question of whether such another person was involved in the criminal activity of the accused will be assessed by the investigative, prosecuting and adjudicating authorities itself as a preliminary question under Section 9(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. If the assessment of the accused's guilt depends on the resolution of this question, investigative, prosecuting and adjudicating authorities are not bound by the decision of another authority on such a question. This does not constitute a violation of the principle of presumption of innocence of the person concerned by the assessment of the preliminary question. Finally, the fifth legal sentence of the resolution defines the range of persons from whom the injured party of a criminal offence of Damage to the Financial Interests of the European Union (similarly Subsidy Fraud) is entitled to demand financial compensation. The injured party may demand compensation from the perpetrators on the grounds of damages (the right to compensation from the perpetrator who caused another person to be unjustly enriched) and at the same time has the option of demanding the same amount as unjust enrichment from the recipient of the subsidy (the right to the surrender of unjust enrichment). These are two separate claims that the injured party may assert at their discretion, whereby performance based on one of them extinguishes the injured party's claim for performance in the same amount under the other.

On the Admissibility of Evidence of CCTV Footage Taken by a Private Entity in a Place Open to the Public

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 27 November 2024, Case No **4 Tdo 970/2024**, published under No 42/2025 of the Collection, addresses the issue of the admissibility of evidence from a CCTV recording taken in a place open to the public by a private entity. Such a CCTV recording depicting a specific factual event, including a person suspected of committing a criminal offence, does not in principle constitute procedurally inapplicable evidence within the meaning of the second alternative of the ground of extraordinary appeal under Section 265b(1)(g) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The Supreme Court emphasised that it is necessary to assess the reasons for making such a recording and the intensity of the interference with the protection of the privacy of the person captured by the CCTV footage (see decisions published under No 7/2008 and No 22/2010 of the Collection).

Local Jurisdiction of the Court in the Case of the Criminal Offence of Abuse of a Child for the Production of Pornography Under Section 193(1) of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 26 February 2025, Case No **7 Tdo 9/2025-II.**, published under No 44/2025 of the Collection, deals with the issue of determining the local jurisdiction of the court pursuant to Section 18(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure in the case of the criminal offence of Abuse of a Child for the Production of Pornography pursuant to Section 193(1) of the Criminal Code. The Supreme Court concluded that the place where the criminal offence was committed is understood to be the place where the perpetrator persuaded, arranged, hired, lured, seduced, or abused a child for the production of pornographic material or where they profited from the child's participation in such pornographic material, as well as the place where the child was located at the time when they were brought (moved) to participate in the production of pornographic material by any of the aforementioned means.

On the Punishibility of Creating a Forged Public Document From Another Forgery Under Section 348(1) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 12 February 2025, Case No **11 Tdo 875/2024**, published under No 47/2025 of the Collection, states in its legal sentence that the criminal offence of Forgery and Alteration of a Public Document under Section 348(1) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code is also committed by a person who creates a forgery of a public document from another forgery of such a document in order for the new forgery to give the impression of an original and to fulfil its purpose.

On the Question of When an Attempt to Commit Fraud Under Section 21(1) and Section 209(1)(4)(d) of the Criminal Code Is Committed in Inheritance Proceedings

In the resolution of 5 March 2025, Case No **8 Tdo 112/2025**, published under No 48/2025 of the Collection, the Supreme Court dealt with a case of a perpetrator who, shortly before the death of the testator, persuaded them to sign contracts for non-existent loans and then, in order to carry out his fraudulent intention to enrich himself, knowingly registered non-existent claims from these contracts in the inheritance proceedings as a fictitious creditor, thereby attempting to cause considerable damage to the heirs. The Supreme Court concluded that the perpetrator's actions constituted an attempt to commit Fraud under Section 21(1) and Section 209(1)(4)(d) of the Criminal Code.

On the Interpretation of the Term "Means of Payment" in Relation to the Criminal Offence of Unauthorised Provision, Forgery and Alteration of a Means of Payment Pursuant to Section 234(1), (3) alinea 1 of the Criminal Code and on the Court's Procedure for Questioning the Defendant and Witnesses in the Presence of a Witness Who Had Not Yet Been Questioned

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 29 January 2025, Case No **4 Tdo 982/2024**, published under No 53/2025 of the Collection, includes two

legal sentences. The first legal sentence deals with substantive legal issues and states that the term "means of payment" under Section 234 of the Criminal Code includes also software (e.g. a banking application for a mobile phone). The perpetrator who makes such an application created by someone else available to themselves without their consent and then uses it to enter a payment order, commits the criminal offence of Unauthorised Provision, Forgery and Alteration of a Means of Payment under Section 234(1), (3) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code. The second legal sentence is of a procedural nature and states that the President of the Panel is obliged under Section 209(1), first sentence of the Code of Criminal Procedure to ensure that a witness who has not yet been questioned is not present during the examination of the defendant or other witnesses. Any failure to comply with this procedure does not necessarily render the testimony of such a witness inapplicable in the proceedings. However, the presence of a witness in contravention of that provision must be considered when assessing their testimony.

On the Necessity of Unsuccessful Application of Measures in Civil Court Proceedings for the Qualification of the Criminal Offence of Obstruction of the Enforcement of an Official Decision and Eviction Pursuant to Section 337(4) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code

By the resolution of the Supreme Court of 29 January 2025, Case No **5 Tdo 2/2025**, published under No 51/2025 of the Collection, it was decided that the criminal offence of Obstruction of the Enforcement of an Official Decision and Eviction pursuant to Section 337(4) alinea (1) of the Criminal Code is committed, if other conditions are met, only by a person against whom, prior to committing the punishable obstruction of the enforcement of an official decision (or a court-approved agreement) on the upbringing of minor children, measures in civil court proceedings aimed at ensuring the enforcement of the court decision (or court-approved agreement) on the upbringing of minor children had been unsuccessfully applied. Therefore, it is not sufficient if measures in civil court proceedings aimed at ensuring the enforcement of one or more other court decisions in the same matter (e.g. a decision on an interim measure regulating the custody of a child) were used against such a person in the past.

The Commencement of the Limitation Period for the Right to Compensation for Damage in Criminal Proceedings Where the Injured Party Is the State

The Supreme Court's resolution of 24 April 2025, Case No **5 Tdo 306/2025**, published under No 59/2025 of the Collection, addresses the interesting issue of the limitation period for the right to compensation for damage caused by a criminal offence to the property of the Czech Republic. The legal sentence of this decision first states in general terms that the limitation period for the right to compensation for damage begins to run in accordance with the provision of Section 619(1) of the Civil Code from the time when the injured party has the opportunity to enforce their right before a public authority. For the purposes of criminal proceedings, this means the injured party's possibility to file a motion in accordance with Section 43(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure with all the legal requirements. If the Czech Republic is the injured

party, the beginning of the limitation period for the right to compensation for damages under Section 619 of the Civil Code is determined by the time when the State authority authorized to represent the Czech Republic in the criminal proceedings learned of the relevant circumstances. This conclusion follows from the provision of Section 6(6) of the Act No 219/2000 Coll., on the Property of the Czech Republic and Its Participation in Legal Relations, as amended, according to which the organisational units of the State proceed independently in proceedings, in accordance with their procedural role and independently of each other to the extent corresponding to their jurisdiction.

2. 4. 4. 4. Other Selected Decisions of the Panels of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court Issued in 2025 or Approved for Publication in the Collection in This Year

In 2025, the Panels of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court also issued some other important decisions that have not yet been published in the Collection or have not yet been approved for publication. Of these, the following can be highlighted.

On the Significance of Failure to Properly Serve a Summons to Commence Imprisonment in Terms of the Criminal Offence of Obstruction of the Enforcement of an Official Decision and Eviction Pursuant to Section 337(1)(g) of the Criminal Code (As in Effect Until 31 December 2025)

By the resolution of the Supreme Court of 7 May 2025, Case No **6 Tdo 344/2025**, pursuant to Section 265i(1)(e) of the Code of Criminal Procedure it rejected the extraordinary appeal lodged by the Prosecutor General against the judgment of the appellate court, which under Section 226(b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, had acquitted the accused of the charge because it did not find a criminal offence in the act described in the indictment, having previously, under Section 258(1)(d) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, annulled the convicting judgment of the court of first instance. The accused was originally found guilty by this judgment of the criminal offence of Obstruction of the Enforcement of an Official Decision and Eviction pursuant to Section 337(1)(g) of the Criminal Code. She was alleged to have committed this offence by failing, without any serious family, health, or other reason, to commence serving a prison sentence of eight months between 5 February 2024 and 21 February 2024, a sentence imposed upon her by a criminal order of the court of first instance, which became final on 5 December 2023. The summons to commence serving her sentence, dated 9 January 2024, was served to her on 4 February 2024, and according to it, she was required to report to the prison to commence serving the sentence by 31 January 2024 at the latest. She did not respond to this summons, did not report to prison, and on 21 February 2024, she was tracked down and, on the basis of a warrant for commitment to the enforcement of the sentence, transferred to prison. The Prosecutor General disagreed with the acquittal handed down by the appellate court and provided detailed grounds for his extraordinary appeal. The Supreme Court, however, did not agree with the Prosecutor General and upheld the decision and reasoning of the appellate court. In its detailed reasoning, the Supreme Court stated, inter alia, that it is of the opinion that the time limit for commencing the enforcement of a sentence cannot be set

in such a way that its end date precedes the date of the (first proper) service of the summons to the accused, even if, at the time the order was issued, the latest date for commencing the sentence had not yet occurred. In general, it can be stated that no legal provision allows for the setting of time limits within a time frame that is already in the past at the time of setting, or for imposing impossible obligations on anyone. If the court specified a time limit in the summons to commence the sentence, the beginning and end of which would be in the past at the time of setting, there would certainly be no doubt that this was a defective or confusing act. Approving such a procedure would render the legal requirement to set a time limit meaningless; it would be a formal and de facto unnecessary requirement. Similarly must be assessed a situation where the defect in the summons arose only in connection with the police procedure, which took longer than the court had apparently anticipated to locate the accused. In the case at hand, no summons to commence serving the sentence was sent to the accused by post, but the accused only received summons from the police on 4 February 2024, to commence serving the sentence "no later than 31 January 2024", a date which, at the time of service, had already passed by five days. If, in the present case, at the time of proper service of the summons to the accused, the summons contained an unfeasible time limit, the end of which preceded the date of service, it must be concluded that, in a material sense, there was no time limit, or rather that it was only an apparent time limit, and the summons thus did not contain this essential requirement.

On the Question of When the Conditions Under Section 20(1) of the Act on Courts and Judges for Referring a Case to the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division Are Not Met in a Case Where the Differences in Opinions Between Various Panels of the Supreme Court Concern Compensation for Non-Material Harm Without Reliable Factual and Legal Conclusions Having Been Reached Regarding the Criminal Offence Under Consideration

The Supreme Court's resolution of 30 July 2025, Case No **7 Tdo 643/2025**, deals with a relatively complicated case of three accused (two natural persons and one legal entity) who were found guilty by lower courts of Negligent Manslaughter under Section 143(1) and (2) of the Criminal Code. For this, the accused natural persons were each sentenced under Section 143(2) of the Criminal Code to 24 months imprisonment with a conditional suspension of the sentence for a probationary period of three years and with the obligation, during the probationary period of the conditional sentence, to compensate for the caused non-material harm to the best of their ability, and, under Section 67(2)(b) of the Criminal Code and Section 68(1) and (3) of the Criminal Code, to a monetary penalty of 50 daily rates of 400 CZK, i.e. a total of 20,000 CZK. The accused legal entity was sentenced pursuant to Section 143(2) of the Criminal Code, with the application of Section 18(1) and (2) of the Act on Criminal Liability of Legal Entities, to a monetary penalty of 100 daily rates of 1,000 CZK, i.e. a total of 100,000 CZK. Pursuant to Section 228(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, it was decided that all the accused are jointly and severally liable to compensate the four injured parties for non-material harm in a specific amount, and pursuant to

Section 229(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, all injured parties with residual claims for compensation for non-material harm were referred to civil proceedings. The act for which the accused were convicted consisted thereof that both accused natural persons, as managing directors of the accused legal entity, within the scope of its business activities on 3 April 2021, on the premises of the accused legal entity, entered into a verbal agreement with the injured party to perform work on the premises consisting of modifying a slope using an excavator, while failing to fulfil their obligation under Section 101(5) of the Act No 262/2006 Coll., the Labour Code, as amended, by omitting to instruct the injured party on occupational health and safety and possible risks and by allowing him, according to their instructions, to begin working on the earthworks on the slope with an excavator for which they had no accompanying or operating documentation and for which they had not performed an operational safety check pursuant to Section 4(1)and (2) of the Government Regulation No 378/2001 Coll., Which Lays Down Detailed Requirements for the Safe Operation and Use of Machinery, Technical Equipment, Instruments, and Tools. Furthermore, the accused also violated other requirements for the safe operation and use of mobile equipment specified in Annex 3, point 4 of the aforementioned Government Regulation, according to which they were obliged to secure the equipment against tipping over, by means of protective equipment designed to ensure that the mobile equipment would not tilt more than a quarter of its maximum tilt angle, and if there was a risk of the machine operator being crushed in the event of the equipment tipping over, to ensure that only equipment with a restraint system was used; as a result of this, the excavator was not at all suitable for safe operation. The accused also failed to verify whether the injured party had a certificate of authorization to operate construction machinery in accordance with the Decree No 77/1965 Coll., on the Training, Qualification, and Registration of Construction Machinery Operators, thereby causing the excavator to fall down a slope while the injured party was performing earthworks, roll over onto the operator's cab, and deform the cab, in which the injured party was pinned, causing him to suffer multiple injuries incompatible with life, as a result of which he died at the scene. All three accused filed extraordinary appeals against the judgment of the appellate court, and the Prosecutor General filed an extraordinary appeal in favour of the accused natural persons and in favour of and against the accused legal entity. The individual objections were directed against the findings of fact, the legal assessment of the facts, and the appellate court's ruling on compensation for non-material harm to the injured parties. At the time the case was submitted to the Supreme Court for a decision on the extraordinary appeals, it was assigned to Panel No 7 of the Criminal Division according to the Work Schedule. The Panel referred it by a resolution of 26 February 2025, Case No 7 Tdo 68/2025, pursuant to Section 20(1) of the Act No 6/2002 Coll., on Courts and Judges, as amended, to the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court for a decision. The reason for this was the differing legal opinion of Panel No 7 compared to the legal opinion of Panel No 4 of the Criminal Division expressed in its resolution of 24 January 2023, Case No 4 Tdo 1179/2022, on the issue of joint and several liability of the accused for non-material harm caused by a criminal offence. The Prosecutor General used the resolution of Panel No 4 in his extraordinary appeal. In the cited resolution, Panel No 4

concluded that, unless it is an excess in the performance of tasks, an unlawful act committed by someone whom a legal entity has used to carry out its activities does not give rise to the liability of that person, but only gives rise to their liability to the legal entity in a so-called internal relationship, i.e., under labour law regulations, etc. The Panel No 7 did not agree with this and, referring to the current case law of the Civil and Commercial Division of the Supreme Court, concluded that it is not excluded that, if the conditions for liability under Section 2910 of the Civil Code are met, both the legal entity and the so-called auxiliary person used by the legal entity in its activities may be held liable. Given the differing opinion of the two Panels of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court on this fundamental general question of substantive law, Panel No 7 considered it necessary for the Grand Panel to rule on the matter. However, the Grand Panel found that the conditions under Section 20(1) of the Act on Courts and Judges for referring the matter to the Grand Panel were not met. The Grand Panel primarily reached the preliminary conclusion that the accused's objections relating to the grounds for extraordinary appeal under Section 265b(1)(g) and Section 265b(1)(h) of the Code of Criminal Procedure were well-founded. In this situation, it concluded that it was not appropriate to deal with the ruling on compensation for non-material harm, since if the findings of fact had not yet been established and the question of the legal assessment of the facts had not yet been resolved, it was not possible to take a definitive position on the disputed issue at this stage of the proceedings. In the opinion of the Grand Panel, the reasons on which Panel No 7 based its decision to refer the case to the Grand Panel were founded on objections which the Grand Panel is not competent to deal with at this stage of the proceedings. The substantive legal issue that was disputed between Panels No 4 and No 7 of the Supreme Court was not essential for assessing how the Supreme Court should decide on the extraordinary appeals filed. Therefore, by its resolution of 28 May 2025, Case No 15 Tdo 287/2025, the Grand Panel ordered Panel No 7 to re-examine the case and decide, as the conditions under Section 20 of the Act on Courts and Judges were not met. After finding that the extraordinary appeals were admissible and timely, that they had been filed by persons entitled to do so and that they met the prescribed requirements, Panel No 7 found no grounds for rejecting the extraordinary appeals under Section 265i(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Therefore, pursuant to Section 265i(3) and (4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, it reviewed the legality and grounds of the contested decision to the extent and for the reasons stated in the extraordinary appeals, as well as the proceedings preceding the contested decision, and concluded that all the extraordinary appeals were partially well-founded and decided by a resolution of 30 July 2025, Case No 7 Tdo 643/2025, to annul the judgments of the appellate court and the court of first instance pursuant to Section 265k(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and to also annul other decisions following from the annulled decisions pursuant to Section 265k(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, insofar as they had lost their basis due to the change brought about by the annulment, and, pursuant to Section 265l(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, to order the court of first instance to re-examine the case to the extent necessary and to decide.

On the Fulfilment of the Elements of the Qualified Offence of Robbery under Section 173(1)(2)(a) of the Criminal Code (an Act Committed by Members of an Organised Group)

By its resolution of 18 September 2025, Case No **4 Tdo 666/2025**, the Supreme Court, pursuant to 265i(1)(e) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, rejected the extraordinary appeals lodged by two accused persons who had been found guilty at first instance of three criminal offences committed in a single act concurrence, namely the particularly serious criminal offence of Robbery under Sections 173(1) and 173(2)(a)(c) of the Criminal Code, the criminal offence of Assuming the Powers of a Public Authority under Section 328 of the Criminal Code, and the criminal offence of Violation of the Inviolability of the Home under Sections 178(1) and 178(3) of the Criminal Code. According to the judgment of the court of first instance, all of these criminal offences were committed in co-perpetration under Section 23 of the Criminal Code together with two other men, one of whom was another co-accused who was subsequently acquitted by the appellate court under Section 226(c) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the other person could not be identified. The accused persons committed the offences in a highly unusual and sophisticated manner, posing as police officers conducting a house search at the injured party's home. On 26 November 2021 at 10:32 a.m., all the accused, together with another still unidentified perpetrator, acting on prior agreement concerning a coordinated plan and division of roles for entering the injured party's home, interacting with him, and seizing his belongings, equipped with short firearms displayed to the injured party, as well as police identification cards and badges of the Police of the Czech Republic or their imitations, reflective armbands marked "Police", and wearing face masks, entered through the unlocked gate into the garage forming part of the injured party's family home. They verbally and by presenting the aforementioned identification cards or their imitations gave the injured party the impression that they belonged to the Police of the Czech Republic, which they pretended. They informed the injured party that they were being detained and that they would conduct a search of the house in connection with suspected counterfeit banknotes present in the home, presenting them with a written document allegedly issued by a court. By doing so, the offenders intentionally placed the injured party in a state of helplessness and compelled him to comply with their demands, i.e. to grant access to the living area of the house, to open a safe installed in the home, and to hand over an undetermined amount of cash, at least 1,277,500 CZK, plus 6,200 EUR valued at 158,720 CZK, and 2,500 Croatian kuna valued at 8,500 CZK. Furthermore, during the pretended house search and the fictitious exercise of official authority, they took from the injured party an iPhone, a Samsung Galaxy phone with a memory card, two laptops, an external hard drive, a Sony video camera, a Canon camera, a Nikon camera with accessories, a wallet, three bracelets, a pair of earrings, a box with a white-gold necklace, two outdoor cameras – items valued in total at 180,500 CZK – together with the personal documents of the injured party, his wife, and his son, and several of their bank cards, and left the premises with these items, thereby causing the injured party damage in the amount of 1,625,220 CZK. The accused persons lodged extraordinary appeals against the appellate court's decision and raised a number of objections, one of which concerned the alleged failure to prove the existence of an organised group, on the ground that at the outset of the proceedings only the two applicants had been prosecuted, and only later was a third accused added, whose guilt was not proven and who was eventually acquitted. In their view, there was no specific evidence of the participation of two other unidentified perpetrators; the police had not examined this issue sufficiently, and the injured party's statements regarding the number of perpetrators remained unverified. Given the current evidentiary situation, the applicants considered the legal classification of the act as Robbery committed by an organised group under Section 173(2)(a) of the Criminal Code to be inaccurate. The Supreme Court duly examined all the objections but found none of them justified and ruled as stated above. As to the objection concerning the alleged failure to establish the existence of an organised group, the Supreme Court noted, inter alia, that the applicants´ arguments in fact relied on a different factual situation from that found by the courts. From the description of the facts in the operative part of the conviction, it is clear that the two applicants committed the act together with two other men, and that all of them acted according to a prior plan, in a coordinated manner, with assigned roles, which increased the likelihood of successfully completing the offence and hindered its detection. The court of first instance provided a detailed explanation of how criminal-law theory interprets an "organised group" and described how the co-perpetrators in the present case fulfilled the characteristics of such an association. The applicants based their argument about the non-existence of an organised group on the fact that the third co-accused had been acquitted on appeal, and on their claim that the remaining association of persons no longer exhibited the features characteristic of an organised group. However, the association of perpetrators in the form of an organised group was not tied to the person of the third co-accused but to the participation of four perpetrators, whom the injured party described as acting in a coordinated operation. The acquittal of the third co-accused did not change the number of persons who had committed the incriminated conduct; it merely altered the number of identified individuals, and it was with practical certainty that the perpetrators involved were precisely the two applicants.

Acting With Indirect Intent Within the Meaning of Section 15(1)(b) of the Criminal Code in Relation to the Criminal Offence of Fraud Under Section 209(1) of the Criminal Code

Furthermore, by a resolution of the Supreme Court of 8 October 2025, Case No **6 Tdo 623/2025**, the extraordinary appeal of the accused ("A. A.") was rejected pursuant to Section 265i(1)(e) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The accused was found guilty by the court of first instance of the criminal offence of Fraud pursuant to Section 209(1)(5)(a) of the Criminal Code, which he committed (in short) in prior mutual agreement with another accused ("B. B."), who was prosecuted separately, with the common intention of obtaining funds from two injured commercial companies represented by one person as a statutory body (hereinafter referred to as "representative") under the pretext of a favourable purchase of collectible historical banknotes, whereby the accused A. A. acted under a fictitious name ("X. Y.") and falsely presented himself as a long-time numismatist with the ability to purchase bank-

notes from private collectors and State institutions, such as national banks, in the cases described in points 1 to 3 of the operative part on guilt in the judgment of the court of first instance, by selling historical banknotes with a nominal value of 5,000 Czechoslovak crowns from 1919 to the representative acting on behalf of the injured commercial company, which he intentionally presented as genuine, although he had no detailed knowledge of their origin and authenticity and in fact they were completely worthless reproductions of genuine historical currency handed over to him by the previously accused B. B. This conduct was preceded by a mutual agreement between the accused A. A. and the separately prosecuted accused B. B. on their joint intention to lure funds from the injured commercial companies under the pretext of a favourable purchase of collectible historical banknotes. The accused B. B. was personally acquainted with the representative of the injured commercial companies and recommended him to purchase historical banknotes from a person with the fictitious name X. Y., whom he deliberately and falsely presented as a major trader in historical banknotes with contacts at the Czech National Bank, the National Bank of Slovakia, and the Hungarian National Bank, who was able to obtain historical banknotes at a significantly lower price than the real market price. After actively pretending that things were different than they really were, he got the representative to trust the alleged trader X. Y., who was actually the accused A. A. (who was in fact a taxi driver), and to carry out investment transactions with historical banknotes, the accused B. B. arranged for mutual telephone contact between the representative and the accused A. A., who was acting under the fictitious name of X. Y. Furthermore, a series of various negotiations and meetings took place between the fake X. Y. (actually the accused A. A.) with the representative, during which the accused B. B. prepared various false expert opinions for the accused A. A. in order to assure the representative of the alleged authenticity of the banknotes offered, and several such counterfeit banknotes were then gradually sold, for which the representative handed over to the accused A. A. a total amount of 17,600,000 CZK in cash on behalf of the injured commercial company. The court of first instance then sentenced the accused A. A. under Section 209(5) of the Criminal Code, applying Section 58(1) of the Criminal Code, to a sentence of imprisonment for a term of three years, the enforcement of which was conditionally suspended for a probationary period of five years with supervision of the accused under Section 84 and Section 85(1) of the Criminal Code, while applying Section 81(1) of the Criminal Code. Pursuant to Section 67(1) and Section 68(1) and (2) of the Criminal Code, the court also imposed a monetary penalty of 500 daily rates of 2,000 CZK, i.e. a total of 1,000,000 CZK. The appellate court then, pursuant to Section 258(1)(d) and (2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, based on the appeal filed by the prosecutor, partially annulled the first-instance court's judgment in the part concerning the prison sentence and, pursuant to Section 259(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, it again decided to sentence the accused to five years' imprisonment, to be served in a guarded prison, and, pursuant to Section 256 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, dismissed the accused's appeal. The accused A. A. then lodged an extraordinary appeal against this judgment of the court of appeal, which he justified through his selected defence counsel by stating that he was lodging the extraordinary appeal on the grounds specified in Section 265b(1)(g) and (h) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. He pointed out that, according to the indictment, he knew that he was offering counterfeit historical banknotes, which the prosecution considered to be the essence of the fraud. In its convicting judgment, the court of first instance admitted that it was impossible to prove that the applicant was aware that the banknotes being sold or offered were counterfeit, i.e. that he did not know that he was offering the representative only worthless reproductions of historical banknotes. However, the court considered this irrelevant and found the fraud in the accused's presentation of himself to the representative as a person X. Y., who was supposed to be knowledgeable in the field. According to the court of first instance, it was crucial that if the witness (the representative) had been aware that X. Y. was not in fact X. Y., but a taxi driver with no knowledge of the matter, as a result of which he would be unable to assess the quality or value of the banknotes and only relayed information obtained from co-accused B. B., he would not have been willing to purchase the banknotes, even if they had been genuine. However, according to the applicant, this was a speculation, because it is difficult to predict the witness's behaviour in a situation where his own behaviour was not entirely correct, let alone prudent. The accused had no idea that the banknotes were worthless. The court of first instance would not assess the value of the banknotes if they had been genuine in order to determine the amount of damage decisive for the unlawful conduct of which the accused was charged with. His lack of knowledge about the worthlessness of the banknotes could not have led to damage in the full amount of the purchase price or the cash handed over to him by the representative. Furthermore, the accused argued that his ignorance of the offered counterfeit banknotes broke the causal link between the unlawful act of which he was accused, because in a situation where the banknotes were genuine, which he was convinced they were, his actions would not have constituted a criminal offence and could have been considered, at most, an unusual business practice in the sense of negotiating a more favourable price. The Supreme Court did not uphold the accused's objections and, in its reasoning, stated, among other things, that the courts of first and second instance had correctly concluded that the accused A. A., by his actions (in agreement with B. B.), had provided the witness – the representative acting on behalf of both injured commercial companies – with completely false information, which consisted in that that he was posing as a person named X. Y., who was supposed to be a trader with many years of experience in trading historical banknotes, with his acquaintances and contacts among private collectors and state institutions such as the Czech National Bank, the National Bank of the Slovakia, and the Hungarian National Bank. He pretended to the witness that the banknotes being sold were his property. By his actions, the accused A. A. misled the witness regarding essential circumstances important for the injured party's decision on whether to dispose of property, the execution of which was the goal of the joint actions of the accused A. A. and the separately prosecuted B. B., i.e. the transfer of cash in exchange for the receipt of allegedly genuine historical banknotes. In his testimony at the main hearing, the witness clearly confirmed this fact when, in response to the question of whether he would have bought the banknotes if he had known that they were being sold by a taxi driver – the accused A. A., who has no knowledge of banknotes at all and takes them from B. B. – he replied that he would not have bought them under any circumstances. Both

lower courts correctly concluded that, in order to commit the criminal offence of Fraud under Section 209(1) of the Criminal Code, it is not essential whether the defendant A. A. knew or did not know that he was handing over counterfeit banknotes to the witness. According to the ruling of the court of first instance, the accused had no specific knowledge of the origin and authenticity of the historical banknotes he offered to the witness. As the prosecutor aptly stated in his response to the accused's extraordinary appeal, if the accused had no specific idea of the value of the banknotes sold, he must have also taken into account the possibility that they were not actually historically and commercially valuable and that their sale for several million CZK did not correspond to reality. In this situation, he must have been aware of the consequences that could arise in the financial sphere of the injured commercial companies. This is based on the established circumstances of the case, namely that the accused presented himself to the witness under a false name as a person who had allegedly been trading in historical banknotes for many years, which he had in his possession and obtained from both private individuals and State institutions, whereas in reality he always received reproductions of historical banknotes in individual cases from his accomplice B. B., to whom he also handed over millions of CZK collected from their sale. It should also be emphasized that the accused A. A. acted in this manner repeatedly towards the witness in three cases, and in the fourth case, he offered to arrange the sale of a historical banknote for an amount exceeding 10,000,000 CZK, which again he allegedly had in his possession. The accused must therefore have been aware of the possibility that he was not selling historical banknotes to the witness at the price he was willing to pay and also must have taken into account the possibility that the commercial companies providing the funds for the purchase of the banknotes would suffer damage. In the opinion of the Supreme Court, these are circumstances indicating that the accused A. A., in relation to criminal offence of Fraud under Section 209(1) of the Criminal Code, acted with indirect intent within the meaning of Section 15(1)(b) of the Criminal Code. In this case, the accused did nothing to prevent the harmful consequence, which he could have reasonably foreseen as a real possibility.

On the Rejection of the Extraordinary Appeal Pursuant to Section 265l(1)(b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, i.e. As Filed for Reasons Other Than Those Specified in Law

The resolution of the Supreme Court of 22 October 2025, Case No **3 Tdo 904/2025** deals with a very serious case of an accused who, essentially for trivial reasons, attempted to commit the particularly serious criminal offence of Murder under Section 21(1) and Section 140(2)(3)(a)(i) of the Criminal Code and the criminal offence of Public Endangerment under Section 272(1) of the Criminal Code. The accused committed the criminal offence on 29 January 2024, after first visiting a specific bar in the afternoon, where he purchased methamphetamine from one of the guests for 500 CZK, and shortly thereafter discovered that he had been cheated, he returned to the bar in the early evening and demanded that the seller at least return his money, which resulted in a physical confrontation during which he suffered minor injuries to his face. As the accused was frustrated by both events, at around 9:45 p.m. he returned to the bar, where there were at least sixteen people, with a white canister containing approximately 8 litres of Efecta 95 gasoline, which he had purchased at a gas station at around 9:33 p.m. and into which he had inserted a white material, probably paper napkins, which he had torn off the fuel pump stand at 9:35 p.m. when leaving the gas station. He lit it with a lighter he had with him and, saying, "You're all going to die here" threw the canister into the bar area and immediately ran away. The fire, caused by the ignition of flammable gas vapours from handling open flames, broke out in the passageway to the rear of the bar, and because the fire spread rapidly throughout the bar, it prevented guests in the rear of the bar from safely escaping outside. As a result of these actions, a number of bar customers suffered serious injuries, primarily burns and respiratory tract injuries; moreover, his actions endangered the residents of the apartments located above the bar, who had to be evacuated from their apartments due to the imminent danger of the fire spreading and the escape of combustion products. For this, the accused was convicted under Section 140(3) of the Criminal Code, with reference to Section 43(1) of the Criminal Code, and sentenced to a total of 18 years' imprisonment, to be served in a high-security prison under Section 56(2)(b) of the Criminal Code. Pursuant to Section 228(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, he was also ordered to pay substantial amounts in damages to various injured parties. The appeal filed by the accused against the judgment of the court of first instance was rejected by the appellate court as unfounded pursuant to Section 256 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The accused filed an extraordinary appeal against the decision of the appellate court, referring to the grounds specified in Section 265b(1)(g) and (h) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In his extraordinary appeal, he presented a number of arguments, emphasizing, inter alia, that he had confessed to the act described in the indictment, but had denied from the very beginning that he had intended to harm anyone or even cause their death. He explained the motivation for his actions by stating that he had been under the influence of alcohol and drugs and had not acted intentionally, but in the heat of the moment and impulsively. When he had been sold a fake substance instead of methamphetamine in the bar in question, he had felt cheated and deceived, and the whole incident had ended in a scuffle in which he had been physically attacked by the person selling the fake drug. He always explicitly denied that he had lit the canister with his own lighter and had thrown it into the bar, saying, "You're all going to die here". He criticized the contested judgment, arguing that the court had failed to fulfil its obligation to focus on clarifying the causes that had led to the criminal activity or had enabled it to be committed. The accused did not deny that the act had taken place, but it had not been and could not have been a criminal offence for which he was convicted, because he had never intended to harm anyone. In his extraordinary appeal, he challenged the legal classification used in the contested judgment, which had found him guilty of attempted murder, a particularly serious criminal offence under Section 21(1) and Section 140(2)(3)(a)(i) of the Criminal Code. Although the court of first instance had ruled on the facts stated in the indictment, which the accused had confessed to, it had not been bound by the legal assessment stated in the indictment. It had been required to consider only the facts discussed at the main hearing and rely only on the evidence presented and examined by the parties or on evidence it had obtained itself. Considering the above, the accused objected to the un-

clear and incomplete findings of fact, as the court had based its decision primarily on the testimony of witnesses who had also been victims, which had been ambiguous and contradictory. These statements had been made a long time after the incident, and it had been clear that the witnesses, in their procedural position as injured parties, already had known what had happened that day and what the consequences had been, and had logically communicated with each other about the whole incident, which had objectively reduced the credibility of their statements. The statements of the witnesses – the injured parties – had differed considerably, with some stating that the accused had held the canister in his right hand and had lit it with his left hand, while others had stated that it was the other way around. The same had applied to the evidence of the threat, as some witnesses had heard it and others had not. Furthermore, it was important to point out that if the accused had brought an open canister of gasoline and had lit it with a lighter, such a canister containing a volatile substance would have ignited and exploded before being thrown. The accused believed that in order to properly clarify the matter, it was necessary to repeat a number of pieces of evidence and, if necessary, to examine further evidence. A number of important pieces of evidence, such as witness testimonies, official records, expert opinions, expert statements, CCTV recordings, and other documentary evidence, had been declared undisputed by both the prosecutor and the accused pursuant to Section 206d of the Code of Criminal Procedure. However, in his extraordinary appeal, the accused argued that this evidence should nevertheless have been examined because "the accused's actions did not relieve the investigative, prosecuting and adjudicating authorities of their obligation to examine all the relevant circumstances of the case". In the applicant's opinion, the court of first instance had not proceeded in accordance with Section 2(6) of the Code of Criminal Procedure and had not evaluated the evidence on the basis of its internal conviction based on careful consideration of all the circumstances of the case, both individually and in their entirety and interrelationships. It had only used evidence against the accused and, conversely, had overlooked and had not used evidence in his favour. According to the accused, this incorrect procedure resulted in the facts of the case not being established beyond reasonable doubt to the extent necessary for a correct and lawful decision in the case. However, the Supreme Court did not agree with any of these objections and arguments of the applicant and rejected his extraordinary appeal as filed on grounds other than those specified in the law pursuant to Section 265i(1)(b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In his extraordinary appeal, the accused raised only objections that could not be classified under any of the grounds for extraordinary appeal under Section 265b of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and these objections were also without merit. It was also found that the accused's arguments in the extraordinary appeal basically copied his earlier defence, including that which was elaborated in the grounds for the appeal (the essential part of the extraordinary appeal consisted of text copied practically verbatim from the grounds for the appeal). However, all these objections had already been dealt with sufficiently and factually correctly by the lower courts. The Supreme Court Panel agreed with their assessment and factual and legal conclusions and referred the applicant to the relevant passages of the reasoning of their substantive decisions for details.

2. 5. Adjudication of the Special Panel on Conflicts of Jurisdiction

The Special Panel, established under the Act No 131/2002 Coll., on Adjudicating Certain Conflicts of Jurisdiction, as amended, is composed of three Supreme Court judges and three Supreme Administrative Court judges. The Presidents of the Supreme Court and the Supreme Administrative Court appoint six members and six substitutes for a three-year term. The President of the Special Panel changes in the middle of the three-year term. The first half of the term is presided by a judge of the Supreme Administrative Court and the second half by a judge of the Supreme Court. The first session of the Special Panel is convened and chaired by the most senior member of the Special Panel.

The Special Panel sits and decides at the seat of the Supreme Administrative Court in Brno.

The Special Panel rules on certain conflicts between courts and executive bodies, local, interest or professional self-governments, and on conflicts between civil courts and administrative courts, concerning competence or subject-matter jurisdiction to issue decisions. The Special Panel determines which party to the dispute has jurisdiction to deliver a decision.

Although the Special Panel is neither part of the Supreme Court nor the Supreme Administrative Court, it may annul the decisions of both courts if they are parties to a jurisdictional dispute.

No remedies are admissible against the Special Panel's decisions. Its decisions are final and binding on the parties to the jurisdictional dispute, the parties to the proceedings, as well as on all executive bodies, local self-government bodies and courts.

	Newly received cases	Decided in a given year	Percentage*	Pending as of 31 December
2024	13	16	123 %	6
2025	9	8	89 %	7
2003 – 2025	1,364	1,357		

Statistics of the Special Panel for the last two years
* Percentage of the decided cases compared to the newly received cases.

In 2025, the members of the Special Panel, established in accordance with the Act No 131/2002 Coll., were Supreme Court Judges Vít Bičák, Roman Fiala, and Pavel Simon. The substitute members appointed for the Supreme Court were judges Radek Doležel, David Havlík, and Petr Škvain.

Radovan Havelec who has presided over the Special Panel since 1 January 2024, Tomáš Rychlý, and Jitka Zavřelová were appointed for the Supreme Administrative Court. The substitute members appointed for the Supreme Administrative Court were Filip Dienstbier, Ondřej Mrákota, and Karel Šimka.

2. 6. Adjudication on Disciplinary Agenda

By the Act No 438/2024 Coll., amending the Act No 7/2002 Coll., on Proceedings in Matters Concerning Judges, Prosecutors and Bailiffs, a two-instance system of disciplinary judiciary was introduced with effect from 21 December 2024. The high courts became courts of first instance in disciplinary proceedings, while the appellate disciplinary courts became the Supreme Court and the Supreme Administrative Court. Until that time, within the framework of a single-instance disciplinary system, the Supreme Administrative Court acted as the disciplinary court in matters concerning judges, prosecutors and bailiffs, with certain judges of the Supreme Court appointed as members of the Disciplinary Panels of the Supreme Administrative Court.

2. 6. 1. Appellate Disciplinary Court

With effect from 21 December 2024, the Supreme Court became a second-instance disciplinary court for proceedings on appeals lodged against decisions of the high courts in matters concerning judges of the Supreme Administrative Court, as well as judges other than those adjudicating exclusively in administrative justice.

As an appellate disciplinary court, the Supreme Court hears and decides cases in a Disciplinary Panel composed of a President, a Vice-President, four judges (two judges of the Supreme Court and two judges of the Supreme Administrative Court), and two members drawn from among attorneys. The President of the Disciplinary Panel is a judge of the Supreme Court, while the Vice-President is a judge of the Supreme Administrative Court.

The term of office of a Disciplinary Panel of a disciplinary court is five years and commences on the date of appointment of the President of the Disciplinary Panel.

The members of the appellate Disciplinary Panel of the Supreme Court are Supreme Court judges Josef Mazák (President of the Disciplinary Panel), Petr Kraus and Petr Vojtek. Substitute members from among the judges of the Supreme Court are Marta Ondrušová, Věra Kůrková, and Roman Fiala.

From among the judges of the Supreme Administrative Court, Jaroslav Vlašín (Vice-President of the Disciplinary Panel), Radovan Havelec and Petr Mikeš, were drawn by lot; the substitute members are Milan Podhrázký, Aleš Roztočil, and David Hipšr.

The members drawn by lot from among attorneys of the Czech Bar Association were Robert Němec, and Monika Novotná; the substitute members are Vladimír Jirousek, Martin Vychopeň, Tomáš Herblich and Ondřej Lichnovský.

The above-mentioned members are also members of the Disciplinary Panels of the Supreme Administrative Court, which, acting as a second-instance disciplinary court, decides on appeals against decisions of the high courts in matters of disciplinary liability of judges of the Supreme Court and judges adjudicating in administrative justice (with the exception of judges of the Supreme Administrative Court), as well as prosecutors and bailiffs.

In 2025, no appeal was lodged with the Disciplinary Panel of the Supreme Court.

2. 6. 2. Courts of First Instance in Disciplinary Proceedings

Pursuant to the Act No 7/2002 Coll., judges of the Supreme Court are also members of the Disciplinary Panels of the high courts for first-instance decision-making in disciplinary proceedings in matters concerning judges, prosecutors and bailiffs.

As members of the Disciplinary Panels of the High Court in Olomouc, the following judges of the Supreme Court were drawn by lot: Marek Cigánek, Filip Cileček and Milan Polášek; substitute members: Pavel Göth, Pavel Malý and Roman Vicherek.

The following judges of the Supreme Court were drawn by lot to serve in the Disciplinary Panels of the High Court in Prague: Pavel Horák, Milada Šámalová and Pavel Tůma; substitute members: Tomáš Durdík, David Havlík and Bohuslav Horký.

2. 7. Awards for Supreme Court Judges

A new tradition, which was being prepared during the year 2023, is the presentation of an award, in the form of a statuette made of Czech glass, to retiring judges for their long-term service not only at the Supreme Court. In most cases, Supreme Court judges retire upon reaching the statutory limit of 70 years of age. At the end of 2025, the tenure of the judge Antonín Draštík ended and he was awarded, by the President of the Supreme Court, a statuette representing scales as a symbol of justice. In 2025, judge Karel Svoboda also left the Supreme Court and now works at the Regional Court in Plzeň.

The President of a Panel of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, Věra Kůrková, was awarded the title of Lawyer of the Year in the Criminal Law category during the 19th annual Lawyer of the Year Competition, organised by the Czech Bar Association in cooperation with EPRAVO.CZ media and education group. The award ceremony was held in Prague on 23 May 2025.

At the XXXII annual International Conference Karlovy Vary Law Days, held from 12 to 14 June 2025 in Karlovy Vary, the award "Pocta judikátu" was presented to the judgment of the Grand Panel of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court of 19 March 2024, Case No 15 Tdo 960/2023, which was published under No 44/2024 in the criminal section of the Collection.

On 7 November 2025, Supreme Court judge Michal Králík received the Silver Medal of Antonín Randa, awarded by the Council of the Union of Czech Lawyers in recognition of his contribution to the development of legal science and practice.

2. 8. Additional Activities of the Supreme Court Judges

Apart from the decision-making and unification activities of the Supreme Court, its judges were also substantially engaged in other professional activities in 2025. These included, in particular, legislative, educational and publishing activities, participation in professional conferences and foreign internships.

2. 8. 1. Legislative Activities

Pursuant to the Legislative Rules of the Government, the judges of the Supreme Court actively participated in commenting on draft laws. For a long time, drafts of new legislation regulating the activities of the Supreme Court or affecting matters falling within its competence are sent to them as part of the interdepartmental comment procedure.

The Supreme Court's expert comments are often taken up by others and serve as a basis for expert discussion in the further consideration of legislation. The importance of the comments made and their subsequent settlement in the legislative bodies demonstrates the importance of the participation of judicial institutions in the legislative process, as they can provide invaluable experience in the daily application of the law, where they can also predict possible application problems that the proposed legislation entails.

2. 8. 2. Educational Activities of Judges and Their Participation in Professional Examinations

In accordance with the Act on Courts and Judges, the judges of the Supreme Court contribute to the professional training and education of judges, prosecutors, judicial candidates, and other judiciary staff as part of the programmes organised mainly by the Judicial Academy of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Justice, courts and prosecutors' offices. Furthermore, Supreme Court judges also participate in the professional training of attorneys and articled clerks organised by the Czech Bar Association. Some of the judges also hold visiting teaching posts at the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic.

Some of the judges are also involved in teaching law students at universities or other higher education institutions, either as internal or external lecturers. They are also members of the scientific boards of university faculties or universities themselves. Other than that, the judges of the Supreme Court also participate in professional legal examinations, in particular professional judicial and bar examinations.

2. 8. 3. Publishing Activities

Supreme Court judges have also participated in publishing activities, particularly by drafting articles in journals or conference proceedings, commentaries, textbooks, and some serve as members of editorial boards of professional journals. Publishing houses or periodicals themselves often approach Supreme Court judges with requests for contributions.

2. 9. Administrative Staff in the Administration of Justice Section

The internal organisation of the Administration of Justice Section is centred around Judicial Departments (Panels), which are constituted in accordance with the applicable Work Schedule. The administrative and other clerical work for one or more Judicial Departments or Panels is carried out by the Court Offices, which consist of a Head of the Court Office and three or four stenographers. In the Court Offices of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, in addition to the stenographers, there are mainly clerks of the Court Office.

Stenographers and clerks of the Court Office perform professional, qualified, responsible and demanding administrative activities that require active knowledge of various information systems.

Many of the activities of the stenographers and clerks of the Court Office are carried out independently in accordance with the applicable legislation and the internal rules of the Supreme Court, or as instructed by judges, judicial assistants, or the Head of the Court Office. Part of their daily activities is the administrative processing of all court agenda, including the compilation of documents into often very lengthy files.

At the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, the clerks of the Court Office organise and subsequently draw up protocols both of videoconferences, through which, for example, the interrogation of the defendant takes place, and of public hearings.

The Head of the Court Office organises, directs, and supervises the work of the administrative staff and ensures the smooth operation of the Court Office for the individual Judicial Departments (Panels) and their judges and judicial assistants. They are fully responsible for the proper maintenance of the court registers and court files. Part of their daily work is also the announcement of decisions by posting a written copy of the full judgment or a shortened version thereof with supporting reasoning on the official notice board and the electronic notice board of the Supreme Court.

The supervisory clerk is responsible for the operation of all the Court Offices of the Division, which they organise, manage, and continuously monitor. The supervisory clerk prepares statistics on the performance of the Division, drafts guidelines for administrative staff, judges, and judicial assistants, cooperates with other sections of the Court, such as the Information Office, for which they prepare documents needed to process requests pursuant to the Act No 106/1999 Coll., on Free Access to Information, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "Information Act"), etc.

The supervisory clerk is also involved in the implementation of new applications at the Supreme Court that should facilitate and streamline the work of the administrative staff of the Court Offices.

Administrative Staff of the Civil and Commercial Division	
Supervisory Clerk	1
Head of the Court Office	4
Stenographer	12
Secretary of the Division	1
Referendary of the Department of the Collection of Decisions and Opinions	1
Total	19

Administrative Staff of the Criminal Division	
Supervisory clerk	1
Head of the Court Office	3
Clerk of the Court Office	8
Stenographer	1
Secretary of the Division	1
Referendary of the Department of the Collection of Decisions and Opinions	1
Total	15

2. 10. Court Agenda Section

The Court Agenda Section is a separate section, although it is structurally integrated into the Administration of Justice Section, and the Head of the Court Agenda Section is directly subordinate to the President of the Court. The employees of the Court Agenda Section must be very knowledgeable about the Supreme Court's agendas and structure, and their activities cannot be carried out without active knowledge of all court registers.

Staff of the Court Agenda Section	
Head of the Court Agenda Section	1
Head of the Records and Registry Department	1
Staff of the Records	4
Registry and Duplicating Staff	2
Registry Archives Clerk	1
Applications Administrator	1
Total	10

The Head of the Court Agenda Section directs and supervises the staff of the Records and Registry Department, the registry archives clerk and the applications administrator. They also, as mandated by the Presi-

dent of the Court, manage and supervise the supervisory clerks who ensure the operation of the Court Offices, carry out professional supervision, and comprehensively coordinate and monitor the filing service and the pre-archival care of the Supreme Court's files and documents in all sections and departments of the Court in accordance with the Act No 499/2004 Coll., on Archiving and Filing Services and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "Archives Act"), and the Supreme Court's Office and File Rules. They also implement projects concerning the development of the digitalisation of the judiciary at the Supreme Court, carry out system analyses of user requests for the development of information systems (not only) of the Supreme Court, for example, they initiated the creation of a new module "Registry Archives for Court Information Systems" and are currently actively involved in its implementation. They ensure and coordinate cooperation related to the administration and development of information systems used at the Supreme Court, both within the Supreme Court and with State administration bodies in the field of justice and contractors involved in the technical implementation of the administration and development of these information systems.

Part of the Court Agenda Section is the Records and Registry Department, which is divided into the Records, Registry and Duplicating, and Registry Archives. The Records and Registry Department is managed, monitored and supervised by the Head of the Records and Registry Department, who is responsible for the proper operation of the Department.

The Records staff receives and processes all electronic filings received by the Supreme Court and records all filings and files received by the Supreme Court in paper and electronic form in the Supreme Court Information System (ISNS), in accordance with the rules set out in the Work Schedule and the Office and File Rules of the Supreme Court. In 2025, the Records staff processed 17,077 data messages received by the Supreme Court's electronic registry and recorded 9,144 new filings and files in the respective registers.

The Registry and Duplicating staff ensures the initial registration of all documentary consignments and files delivered to the Supreme Court, the delivery service of all documents and files sent from the Supreme Court, the recording and sale of fee stamps to the parties to proceedings and, if necessary, the duplicating (printing of copies) of documents for the Supreme Court staff. In 2025, the Registry and Duplicating staff processed and entered into the Supreme Court Information System (ISNS) 7,552 documentary filings delivered to the Supreme Court and delivered (dispatched from the Supreme Court) 8,420 documentary consignments and files up to 2 kg and 3,748 over 2 kg (parcels).

The Registry Archives Clerk ensures the professional management of files and documents (pre-archival care) stored in the Supreme Court Registry Archives and, in accordance with the Archives Act and the Office and File Rules of the Supreme Court, prepares and conducts shredding procedures, including the transfer of selected archival materials to the National Archives and the disposal of files and documents that have not been selected as archival materials by the National Archives.

The Registry Archives Clerk keeps a record of the files and documents deposited in the Supreme Court Registry Archives, and in 2025 received and registered 8,724 files and documents of the court administration, which are stored in 604 archive boxes or binders in the Registry Archives.

The seamless functioning of the Supreme Court applications (ISNS, ISIR, IRES) is ensured by the applications administrator. Their activities further include, for example, the training and provision of guidance to the users of the applications, as well as setting access permissions to the applications for individual users in accordance with the Office and File Rules of the Supreme Court. The applications administrator also participates in the implementation of projects relating to the digitalisation of the judiciary.

3. HANDLING OF COMPLAINTS UNDER THE ACT ON COURTS AND JUDGES

Pursuant to the Act on Courts and Judges, natural and legal entities may file complaints with bodies responsible for the State administration of courts about delays in proceedings, the misconduct of court personnel or impairment of the dignity of court proceedings.

In 2025, a total of six complaints were filed with the Supreme Court concerning delays in proceedings before the Supreme Court. Two were found justified, three unfounded and one partially justified. The President of the Supreme Court, in his replies to the applicants, points out that the longer time taken to deal with the case is caused both by the complexity of the legal issues involved and by the greater historical workload of the Judicial Departments concerned.

Similar to previous years, the Supreme Court again made every effort to prevent delays in proceedings and to ensure that the parties' right to a court decision within a reasonable time was not violated.

	Justified	Partially justified	Unfounded
Delays in proceedings	2	1	3
Misconduct of court personnel	0	0	0
Impairment of the dignity of proceedings	0	0	0

Handling of complaints under the Act on Courts and Judges

4. DEPARTMENT OF DOCUMENTATION AND ANALYTICS OF CZECH CASE LAW

Since its foundation on 1 October 2011, the Department of Documentation and Analytics of Czech Case Law (the "Documentation Department") has steadily contributed to the Supreme Court due to the expert work it produces. In terms of its activities, the Documentation Department's name is self-explanatory: it specialises in legal expert analysis focusing primarily on case law and records thereof, specifically in cases falling within the jurisdiction of Czech courts in civil and criminal proceedings.

It carries out extensive background research into case law related to a specific legal issue, evaluates its applicability to the case at hand, and formulates partial conclusions that subsequently serve as a basis for the work of the Records Panels and meetings of both Divisions. Building on the results of the Divisions' meetings, it then draws up short annotations on selected decisions, which are used to acquaint the reader briefly with the issue covered by each of those decisions. This makes it easier to navigate the large number of decisions. The annotations are periodically published on the Supreme Court's website.

In 2025, the Documentation Department continued to process individual decisions provided by lower courts concerning adhesion procedure and claims for compensation for non-material harm in criminal proceedings. Its analysis maps the decision-making practice, both in civil and criminal cases, of the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court, and formulates fundamental conclusions for adhesion procedure and the assessment of claims for compensation for non-material harm.

On request, the Documentation Department processes underlying documentation for the Supreme Court's comments on newly emerging legislation, or amendments thereto, provides assistance to individual judges and judicial assistants and supports other departments of the Supreme Court.

In 2018, the Documentation Department entered into cooperation with the Transport Research Centre on the development of the DATANU project, the primary objective of which was to map out the current decision-making practices of lower courts in cases where there are claims for compensation for non-material harm to health or claims seeking bereavement compensation. The project's secondary objective was to create a software database of court decisions classified by defined criteria, so that specific compensation for non-material harm that had already been granted can be looked up on the basis of input parameters.

The Documentation Department's work has contributed to the development of the database's content by providing the Transport Research Centre with extensive feedback on its functionality and also by professionally processing materials provided by the courts. DATANU project outputs are publicly available online at www.datanu.cz. The database now contains about 3,000 court decisions; decisions newly provided to the Supreme Court are being processed on an ongoing basis.

The Documentation Department continues to administer and maintain the automated system for the registration of constitutional complaints (SUS) that generates relevant data (previously entered manually) on constitutional complaints that have been filed. This allows end users of the Supreme Court's internal systems to automatically access decisions published by the Constitutional Court. This system means that the Supreme Court's administrative burden in this area of the Documentation Department's work can be reduced. It minimizes the possibility of errors in the large amount of processed data and simplifies the orientation in the decisions linked to each other. The data obtained is then made available on the Supreme Court's website for the individual published decisions.

In a similar manner, the Documentation Department has dealt with the assignment of the pseudonymisation agenda of the Supreme Court's decisions since September 2023. This step has led to a significant reduction in the employees involved in pseudonymisation. Thanks to the active cooperation of selected employees of the Documentation Department with external contractors, during 2024 the work on the project of the Ministry of Justice on the creation of a software tool that partially automates the pseudonymisation of decisions was finalised and thus should help simplify and improve the efficiency of work. This trend was confirmed by the continued work of the Documentation Department on the pseudonymisation of decisions in 2025.

Also in 2025, the Documentation Department prepared a number of different specialised analyses and also prepared research on Czech legislation and application practice on the basis of inquiries from foreign courts, e.g. from Germany, Austria or Bulgaria.

In January 2020, a request was addressed to the Supreme Court, on the basis of which the Documentation Department proceeded to continuously monitor and compile register of newly issued decisions of the Supreme Court concerning family law regulation. The Documentation Department continues to monitor the Supreme Court's decision-making activity relating to family law regulation to fulfil the intended purpose articulated in the request.

The Documentation Department not only provides professional legal support, but it also works hard to develop the technical facilities of the Court. For example, it ensures the development and updating of systems used by the Court, it carries out ongoing individual user training of court employees, including in the ASPI and Beck-online legal systems, in order to ensure and maintain the professional level of technical skills of their users.

Similar to previous years, also in 2025 as part of the ECLI (European Case Law Identifier) project, the Documentation Department continuously assigned the ECLI identifier to decisions of the Supreme Court, the Constitutional Court and selected high and regional courts. In the course of 2024, the Supreme Administrative Court was added to the above list of courts, and in 2025 the Supreme Court's ECLI system was linked to the Ministry of Justice's case law database (https://rozhodnuti.justice.cz/), which contains anonymised decisions published by district, regional, and high courts. As a result of this connection, the decisions of all three Czech supreme courts—namely the Supreme Court, the Supreme Administrative Court, and the Constitutional Court—as well as selected decisions of lower courts, are now provided with a uniform ECLI identifier, which has resulted in a manifold increase in publicly accessible case law data in the Czech Republic. All indexed decisions are available online to the Czech, European, and global public via the ECLI search engine on the EU e-Justice Portal.

4. 1. Department of the Collection of Decisions and Opinions

In March 2021, the Department of the Collection of Decisions and Opinions (the "Department of the Collection") was established to take over and continue processing the agenda related to the publication of the Collection. However, the essential task for the Department was to oversee the project of the digitalisation of the Collection, i.e. its financing, creation of technical and legal documentation, participation in the development of the Collection application with an external supplier, the Ministry of Justice and other IT experts. The same applies to the periodical Selection of Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights for Judicial Practice.

Through this project, the Supreme Court is following the current trends of digitisation and tries to ensure easier access to its fundamental decisions, better familiarity of the professional public with the decisions included in the Collection and, finally, its easier, more economical, greener and faster publication.

The successful implementation of the project is evident from the increasing number of experts and professionals interested in obtaining information through electronic communication, but also from the number of regular visitors to the site, which already reaches the thousands. Representatives of the Department also conducted several initial training sessions focused on the use of the newly created system and presenting the ways of working with the published data.

The Department's aim was to create the easiest and most comfortable environment for visitors to work with the Collection. The reasoning of each decision is thus hyperlinked, the decisions are available for download in several formats (including editable PDF), etc. The database of decisions published in the Collection is gradually being expanded to include both new and older decisions that have not yet been published in this way. The reason for this is the growing demand from the professional public for their availability in digital form. Due to the growing interest, the Department has expanded the website to include the option of subscribing to a newsletter sent to interested parties when a new volume of the Collection is published.

In 2025, a subject index was added to the website of the Collection, replacing, in a simplified form, the previously issued paper indexes for individual annual volumes of the Collection. The new subject index enables users to search for decisions across individual years using relevant keywords, separately for the Criminal Division and for the Civil and Commercial Division. Thanks to digitization, the index is continuously updated as new decisions of the Collection are published.

Since the Collection has been published exclusively in electronic form since 2022, the Department of the Collection has, from that year onwards, been responsible for printing and binding the compiled annual volumes of the Collection. In 2025, the volumes for 2023 and 2024 were printed and bound. Several copies of these comprehensive volumes are available in the Supreme Court Library.

The Department of the Collection works closely with the Documentation Department to implement its agenda, in which it is fully involved.

5. NATIONAL AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

5. 1. Activities of the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law

As in previous years, the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law of the Supreme Court focused primarily on analytical and research activities in 2025, as far as European and comparative law is concerned, for practical use not only by the Supreme Court, but also by the lower courts in the Czech Republic and their judges.

The Department's activities included the creation of analyses in the area of the decision-making practice of the Court of Justice of the European Union, European Court of Human Rights, European Union legislation and comparison of legislation or case law in other countries, especially EU Member States.

The Department also continued to carry out its other irreplaceable activities in the past year – it maintained regular contact with foreign courts, as well as with other bodies and international organisations, which it not only managed to keep at current levels, but also actively developed. In this respect, the Supreme Court´s day-to-day participation in several platforms for the cross-border exchange of legal information and experience reflected in the decision-making activities of the Supreme Court, was not left out.

However, the cross-border activities of the Supreme Court, which are externally covered and *de facto* administered by the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law not only in terms of communication, but especially in terms of expertise, were far wider than the above points describe. The Supreme Court, as the supreme judicial institution of a Member State of the European Union and the Council of Europe, continued to participate in a number of activities of various extents; the selection of the most interesting ones follows.

5. 1. 1. Analytical Activities

As already mentioned, the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law is primarily involved in analytical activities related to the issues that the Supreme Court or lower courts encounter in their decision-making practice.

Among the interesting areas on which the analytical work focused in the past year were, for example, questions related to repeated questioning of vulnerable victims in the context of the decision-making practice of the European Court of Human Rights, including the context of the Lanzarote Convention. Among the numerous issues related to the decision-making practice of the European Court of Human Rights, the Department also dealt with, for example, the importance of non-profit "watchdog" organisations in a democratic State governed by the rule of law and their right to information on the use of public funds.

In addition, the Department also dealt extensively with issues related to cross-border comparison of legislation. This was the case, for example, in the matter of unfair competition in relation to the relationship between arbitration courts. Specifically, this concerned situations that may arise when the jurisdiction of these courts to decide disputes partially overlaps, and therefore they compete in economic relations. Other examples of comparative analysis and research include questions related to the consequences of legal conduct of persons suffering from mental disorders, where the subject matter were the consequences of such legal conduct and, where applicable, the nature of their invalidity.

Last but not least, legal research of the Department focused, for example, on the question how foreign case law approaches the determination of the amount of a discount in the case of defective goods, whether it is a contract of sale or a contract for work, or how foreign case law approaches the issue of debt recognition in the context of the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR). More specific research focused in particular on doctrine and case law in Germany and Austria, raised the question of the approach to so-called "grief damage" *(Trauerschaden)* and "shock damage" *(Schockschaden)*.

5. 1. 2. "Selection of Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights for Judicial Practice", Cooperation With the Office of the Government Representative of the Czech Republic Before the European Court of Human Rights and "Bulletin"

The preparation of the publication Selection of Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights for Judicial Practice is another activity in which the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law has long been involved. The Selection contains translations of important decisions into the Czech language, which helps make this case law accessible to the wider range of legal professionals.

The Department is also engaged in the preparation of annotations of selected decisions for the Internet database of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, which operates under the auspices of the Office of the Government Representative of the Czech Republic before the European Court of Human Rights. These annotations are published on the website mezisoudy.cz. The Department continues to make regular annotations that gradually fill the publicly available database, thus helping to popularize and raise awareness of the case law of the Strasbourg Court.

Last but not least, it is necessary to mention the Bulletin of the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law, which, as its name suggests, presents the original output of this Department. The Bulletin is published four times a year in electronic form – on the Supreme Court's website – and is also accessible, for example, in the legal system ASPI. The Bulletin aims to provide information on current decisions of the supreme courts of the Member States of the European Union, the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

5. 1. 3. Comparative Law Liaison Group

Similarly like in previous years, the Supreme Court participated as much as possible in day-to-day cooperation with partner European courts.

As already mentioned, the Supreme Court, through its Department of Analytics and Comparative Law, participates, *inter alia*, in the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, which deals mainly with general issues of common interest of presidents of the supreme courts; however, more specific issues are also addressed.

The European supreme courts are also daily involved in resolving questions that need to be answered for the needs of their decision-making practice. Aware of this fact, the Comparative Law Laison Group was established, with the Czech Republic participating from the very beginning. The continuing goal of this international group is to facilitate cooperation in the exchange of legal information. This concerns the content of legislation and case law in matters that are the subject of decision-making by one of the member courts of this Comparative Group. This Comparative Group's activities result in analytical material which presents to the judges of the Supreme Court how the legal matters in question are approached before other cooperating supreme courts.

Among the interesting topics that our Department has dealt with in the civil law area in the past period, can be mentioned, for example, access to photo storage in the context of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, on the Protection of Natural Persons With Regard to the Processing of Personal Data and on the Free Movement of Such Data (GDPR), specifically Article 4(14) and Article 9(1) and the relevant national case law; further, the question of how the legislation approaches the emergence of anxiety as a damage giving rise to a claim for compensation; or the issue of decision-making practice in the area of suspension of insurance contracts for non-payment of insurance claim payments.

In the criminal field, queries from other Member States dominated. The questions addressed included the statute of limitation for the most serious crimes, such as murder, and any recent changes in this area; the possibility of reopening proceedings in the event of a previous acquittal; and, last but not least, the issue of tax reduction and whether the accused could have gained financial benefit from the crime and, at the same time, could be required to pay income tax in this regard.

In terms of "offline" information exchange, on 11–12 September 2025, representatives of the Department attended the tenth meeting of the Comparative Group at the Supreme Court of Slovenia in Ljubljana. The work meeting focused on three areas.

The first topic concerned the importance of family law and civil law in combating domestic violence. The group discussed measures introduced in legislation, such as various preliminary and protective measures, orders to leave the shared home, expulsion, or the possibility of financial assistance or housing for victims of domestic violence, both in civil and criminal law.

Another topic concerned the change of legal classification of a conduct during criminal proceedings, both by the prosecutor and by the court. The aim of the discussion was to compare the formal steps that the prosecutor's office must take when it assesses the conduct in question as a different criminal offence than that assessed by the police, taking into account the procedural rights of the accused. The court may also change the legal classification of the conduct after the indictment has been filed, in which case, in addition to instructing the prosecutor's office to conduct a further investigation, the procedural rights of other persons, in particular the accused, must also be protected.

Last but not least, the comparative group dealt with the publication and the pseudonymization of court decisions, both at the highest and lower instances. The discussion revealed that governments invest considerable resources in open data projects so that parties to the proceedings and their representatives can access court decisions online.

5. 1. 4. Judicial Network of the European Union and Superior Courts Network

The Department of Analytics and Comparative Law participates, among other matters, in the content creation of the Judicial Network of the European Union. This Network was created on the initiative of the President of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the presidents of the constitutional and supreme courts of the Member States. The primary objective of this Network is the facilitation of access to information and documents between the courts of the European Union. To this end, an Internet interface has been set up to reflect efforts to strengthen judicial cooperation by supporting the deepening of dialogue in preliminary ruling proceedings, disseminating national decisions of relevance to the Union and strengthening mutual knowledge of Member States' law and legal systems.

For cooperation between the European Court of Human Rights and national supreme courts, the Superior Courts Network, set up for the effective exchange of information, plays an important role. The Supreme Court also participates in this Network through the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law.

5. 2. Participation at Significant International Events and Conferences

5. 2. 1. Significant Visits of the President of the Supreme Court

On 10–20 January 2025, the President of the Supreme Court visited the Supreme Court of the United States. The visit also included meetings at other high-level judicial institutions. The President of the Supreme Court was accompanied by Lubomír Ptáček, President of the Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division and President of the Judicial Council, and Aleš Pavel, Director of the Office of the President of the Supreme Court.

On 22–23 January 2025, the President of the Supreme Court attended an international conference marking the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the Hungarian Constitutional Court. The event focused primarily on the tasks of constitutional courts in the functioning of legal systems, the role of constitutional law in the European context, as well as challenges such as pandemics, the spread of artificial intelligence, and the impact of digitalization.

The President of the Supreme Court also attended the opening of the judicial year at the European Court of Human Rights on 30 January – 1 February 2025. Following the opening, a judicial seminar was held on the protection of human rights in the light of artificial intelligence, algorithms, and big data, as well as a ceremonial meeting chaired by the President of the European Court of Human Rights, Marko Bošnjak.

On 6–7 February 2025, the President of the Supreme Court lectured together with the President of the Panel Petr Vojtek at a professional seminar of the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic. The educational event focused on the issue of compensation for non-material harm to secondary victims from the perspective of criminal and civil law, in particular the prerequisites for the emergence of a claim and the resolution of competing claims for damages to health and non-material harm to secondary victims.

On 27–29 March 2025, the President of the Supreme Court participated in a joint meeting of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union with judges of the Court of Justice of the European Union, which took place in Luxembourg. The meeting focused primarily on two topics: the independence of the judiciary within the European Union in the context of shared responsibility, and EU regulations governing the supervision of the judicial processing of personal data.

From 23 to 25 April 2025 the President of the Supreme Court attended an international conference organised by the Polish Supreme Court. The topic of this expert event was the importance of modern technologies for court proceedings and the administrative activities of courts. The conference featured contributions from representatives of the supreme courts of the Visegrad Group.

The President of the Supreme Court participated in a professional seminar for judges of the Slovak Regional Court in Prešov, which took place from 28 April to 30 April 2025 in Bardejovské Kúpele. He attended the event at the invitation of the Vice-President of the Regional Court, Peter Tobiáš.

On 21–23 May 2025 the President of the Supreme Court attended a meeting of the Board of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, which took place in Tartu, Estonia. The meeting focused on preparations for the upcoming Colloquium of Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, the replacement of some members due to the end of the term of office of the Presidents of the supreme courts, and the meeting of representatives of the Network of Presidents with Michael McGrath, European Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection.

On 25–26 May 2025, accompanied by Bohumil Dvořák, President of the Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division, and Aleš Pavel, Director of the Office of the President of the Supreme Court, the President of the Supreme Court met with Aigars Strupišs, President of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Latvia. The aim of the visit was to strengthen bilateral cooperation and exchange experience between the supreme courts of both countries in key areas of legal practice and judicial administration.

From 9 to 11 June 2025, the President of the Supreme Court participated in two professional events in Slovakia. He contributed to the activities of the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic by participating in a professional seminar on the topic of professional ethics for judges and prosecutors. At the seminar, the President of the Supreme Court held a presentation together with Lenka Bradáčová and Rastislav Remeta. Following on from this, he spoke at an international conference on the protection of human rights and freedoms, organised by the Prosecutor General's Office of the Slovak Republic in Stará Lesná, as part of a thematic block devoted to restorative justice in pre-trial proceedings.

The President of the Supreme Court attended the international conference Košické dni trestného práva 2025 *(Košice Criminal Law Days 2025)* from 18 to 19 June 2025. The main topic of this regular professional event was artificial intelligence as a challenge for criminal law. Individual sections dealt with topics such as extremism from the perspective of criminology, victimology, and criminalistics, as well as creation and tools of criminal policy. At the conference, the President of the Supreme Court gave a speech on the ethical perspective of artificial intelligence, specifically in criminal proceedings.

With the arrival of autumn, other professional events in Slovakia came to the fore. From 17 to 19 September 2025, the President of the Supreme Court participated in the international scientific conference Bratislavské právnické fórum 2025 *(Bratislava Legal Forum 2025),* which is organised annually by the Faculty of Law of Comenius University in Bratislava. This time, the President of the Supreme Court gave a presentation on the impact of artificial intelligence on evidence in criminal proceedings.

On 23–24 September 2025, the President of the Supreme Court attended the annual conference of the European Law Institute (ELI) in Vienna. The event traditionally brought together judges, academics and representatives of European and international institutions to discuss the current state of ELI projects and other important legal developments.

On 13 October 2025, the President of the Supreme Court attended a meeting in Banská Bystrica on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Faculty of Law of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. The President of the Supreme Court was invited to the event by the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Adrián Vaško.

From 29 to 31 October 2025, the President of the Supreme Court attended a ceremonial meeting in Germany on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Federal Court of Justice and Federal Prosecutor's Office, which took place in Karlsruhe. Among others, the acting President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, also attended the meeting on this important anniversary.

The President of the Supreme Court attended the JAEL (Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Law) international conference in Budapest from 5 to 7 November 2025. The event, to which the President of the Supreme Court was invited by Jozef Čentéš, Head of the Department of Criminal Law, Criminology and Criminalistics at the Faculty of Law of Comenius University in Bratislava, focused on the issue of environmental liability in the context of a comparative view of selected topics.

From 12 to 15 November 2025, a colloquium of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union was held in the Hague, Netherlands. The President of the Supreme Court attended this annual meeting, which focused on the contribution of the national courts, international courts and tribunals to the rule of law, national courts and international crime, or on the impact of social media networks on the communication of the courts and their influence on the independence of the judiciary.

From 25 November to 3 December 2025, the President of the Supreme Court took part in an official visit abroad that included a working visit to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea and other working meetings at top judicial institutions. Apart from the meetings at the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea, meetings at the Constitutional Court, the Ministry of Justice, and at the Prosecutor General's Office also took place. There were also meetings with the representatives of the Judicial Research and Training Institute, the Training Institute for Judicial Officers, and the Centre for Information Technology.

On 15 December 2025, the President of the Supreme Court attended a conference at the Faculty of Law of the Károli Gáspár University in Budapest, Hungary. On this occasion, the President of the Supreme Court, as the main speaker, delivered a speech primarily focused on the issues related to the judicial independence and the professional integrity of judges.

5. 2. 2. Significant Visits Abroad of the Judges of the Supreme Court

From 4 to 7 March 2025, Pavel Horák, President of the Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division, participated in a training program for national judges on competition law and intellectual property law, which took place in Florence. The event focused on issues encountered by the Civil and Commercial Panel he is a member of in its decision-making practice. The second follow-up part of the conference took place on 23–26 September 2025.

On 4–10 May 2025, a delegation of representatives of the Supreme Court, together with representatives of the Judicial Academy, took part in a study visit to Italian judicial institutions on the topic of sexually motivated crimes, the protection of their victims, and the prevention of such crimes. At conferences held at the Court of Appeal in Venice, Naples and the Supreme Court in Rome, the Supreme Court was represented by the President of the Criminal Division František Púry, and judges Pavla Augustinová, Anotnín Draštík, Tomáš Durdík, Ivo Kouřil and Jiří Říha.

In May 2025, Petr Škvain, President of the Panel of the Criminal Division, completed a week-long study visit at the Faculty of Law of the University of Palermo in Italy, where he focused, among other things, on the decision-making practice of the European Court of Human Rights and comparative criminal procedural law. He also participated in discussions with colleagues from the Supreme Court of the Italian Republic and observed a main hearing.

On 18–22 June 2025, Miroslav Hromada, President of the Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division, attended and spoke at the annual conference of the European Association of Labour Court Judges in Warsaw. The topics of the conference included the current state of the Polish judiciary, alternative dispute resolution in labour law, the relationship between labour courts and arbitration, and current trends in the judiciary, including the rise of AI.

From 22 to 26 September 2025, Tomáš Durdík, President of the Panel of the Criminal Division, together with colleagues from other Czech courts, participated in a professional study visit to the United Kingdom as part of the "Social Prevention and Crime Prevention" program. Among other things, the representatives of the Czech Republic had the opportunity to take part in a two-day visit to the Crown Court in Oxford, as well as to learn about the British judiciary, including the jury system, and the British Supreme Court.

The 2025 WIPO Intellectual Property Judges Forum, a conference organised by the World Intellectual Property Organization, was held on 14–15 October 2025. Pavel Tůma, the President of the Panel of the Civil and Commercial Division, participated in the conference and held a presentation on the topic of the Czech decision-making practice regarding the right to compensation for non-material harm caused to a legal entity by an unjustified interference with its reputation.

Finally, on 20–23 October 2025, Petr Škvain, President of the Panel of the Criminal Division, participated as an expert guarantor and co-organiser of an international seminar at the New University in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on the topic of European and international criminal law in the context of human rights in criminal proceedings, particularly with regard to the decision-making practice of the European Court of Human Rights.

6. ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT (COURT ADMINISTRATION)

The purpose of court administration is to ensure the proper functioning of the judiciary, i.e. to create the conditions for its effective operation. Court administration includes, in particular, material, personnel, economic, financial and organisational support for the activities of the Court.

The Supreme Court's budgetary expenditures consist mainly of the salaries of judges and court employees, which account for more than 90% of annual expenditure. The level of annual increases in expenditure is in line with inflation, the increase in the price level and the increase in public wages, which also applied in 2025. Operating funds are used in particular to ensure the functioning of the Court and for the maintenance and repair of the Court's listed building.

In 2025, the renovation of the offices of judges, employees and other areas of the historic building continued. This is a long-term process due to the extent of the premises that are not yet in satisfactory condition and the need for regular repairs to the building, which is more than 95 years old.

As part of investment projects, the installation of a photovoltaic system on the roof of the Supreme Court building was successfully carried out in 2025. Most of the energy produced will be used to cover the building's own needs, which will contribute to the sustainability of its operation. Furthermore, a complete renovation of the water distribution system on the accommodation floor, which was functionally separated from the rest of the building, was carried out. Savings in operating costs, particularly in hot-water heating, are expected. Work also began on the renovation of the entrance portal and hall, including the sensitive restoration of the original doors and light fixtures under the supervision of the heritage protection authorities. The renovation will continue in 2026.

An important step was the removal of the last obstacle to barrier-free access — a platform for people with reduced mobility was installed on the stairs leading to the František Vážný Hall.

Significant funds from the budget of the Supreme Court were spent on the purchase and renewal of IT technology, improving the technical level of hardware, software, user support and data security. Particular attention was paid to cyber security and protection against cyber-attacks, including the acquisition of the relevant hardware and software. The development of communication platforms for remote communication within the judiciary also continued.

Ensuring the professional qualification of judges and employees is another important area, which is why one of the leading items is the expenditure on the acquisition of professional and expert publications for the Supreme Court Library, which specialises in professional legal publications and is continuously being expanded.

The Supreme Court's economic management is always guided by the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of funds from the State budget. In the process of financial operations of the Supreme Court, internal management control is implemented to ensure control and approval from the preparation of transactions until their full approval and settlement, including the evaluation of the results and accuracy of management.

	Approved budget	Adjusted budget	Actual use
2020	430,871	478,441	443,168
2021	416,069	478,415	435,712
2022	430,236	496,712	472,009
2023	435,848	495,393	474,808
2024	446,928	515,946	493,604
2025	494,430	562,072	545,302

The figures in the table of budgets are expressed in thousands of CZK

7. PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

In 2025, the number of Supreme Court judges increased by one compared to 2024, the number of judicial assistants decreased by one, while the number of other court employees increased by one.

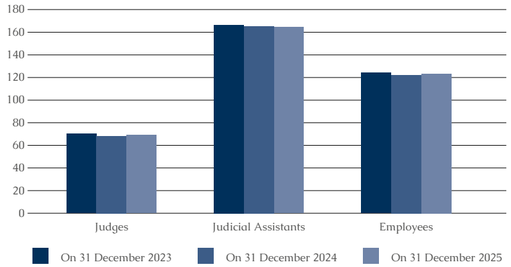
	On 31 December 2023	On 31 December 2024	On 31 December 2025
Judges	70	68	69
Judicial assistants	166	165	164
Employees	124	122	123

The following judges were transferred to the Supreme Court in 2025, namely:

As of 1 January 2025 Pavla Augustinová to the Criminal Division;
As of 1 January 2025 Petra Kubáčová to the Civil and Commercial Division;
As of 1 July 2025 Ondřej Vítů to the Criminal Division.

As of 30 June 2025 judge of the Civil and Commercial Division, Karel Svoboda, left at his own request and transferred to the Regional Court in Plzeň.

As of 31 December 2025 judge Antonín Draštík retired from the Supreme Court due to the termination of his judicial term as a judge of the Criminal Division.



8. INFORMATION OFFICE

8. 1. Activities of the Information Office

In 2025, the Information Office, which provides basic information on the status of proceedings to the participants (parties) to the proceedings, their lawyers, and to State institutions, handled, similarly as in the past, up to 100 telephonic, written or personal inquiries per day. The majority of inquiries, 60 to 80 per day, concern case numbers, the status of proceedings, and the recognition of foreign decisions by the Supreme Court. The remainder consists of various other inquiries from the general public. The Information Office thus handled more than 22,000 requests and inquiries in 251 working days in 2025, including requests for information under the Information Act.

The main daily tasks of the Information Office include monitoring the decision-making activities of the Supreme Court and press.

In addition to handling individual inquiries and requests, the Information Office is also responsible for preparing the online quarterly AEQUITAS, published by the Supreme Court since 2017.

The Information Office also prepares informational materials, oversees the implementation of various projects, and participates in organising professional and educational events.

The Information Office consists of the Head of the Office, an Advisor on Matters Related to the Information Act, and Clerk of the Information Office (the “Information Clerk”).

The main tasks of the Head of the Office are to coordinate the activities of the Office, administer the Supreme Court’s website and Intranet, and publish the online quarterly.

In 2025, the Head of the Office assisted in coordinating the creation of a Graphic Standards Manual, which followed the launch of a new website at the beginning of the year. The Graphic Standards Manual makes greater use of the blue colour characteristic of the Supreme Court and of the Supreme Court logo, which replaced the small State emblem in 2018.

Their work also included the digitisation of a representative publication that had been issued in print in 2018 and is now available to the

general public on the Supreme Court's website. You can view it using this QR code.

The Advisor on Matters Related to the Information Act handles requests submitted under the Information Act, for which accurate records are kept (see subchapter 8. 2 for more details). They also participate in handling telephone and written inquiries addressed to the Information Office.

The Information Office provides information on the status of proceedings, including whether a decision has already been issued in a particular case and, if so, the manner in which the case was decided. It also provides information on the case numbers of the proceedings before the Supreme Court and informs about the composition of the Panel. It informs about the progress of work on the reasoning of the decision, or whether the decision and the file have (usually) already been sent to the court of first instance, or where the complete file is currently located. Phone and written inquiries are handled by the Information Clerk who does press monitoring on daily basis.

In addition to handling phone inquiries, the Information Clerk manages written inquiries about the status of the proceedings and does press monitoring on daily basis.

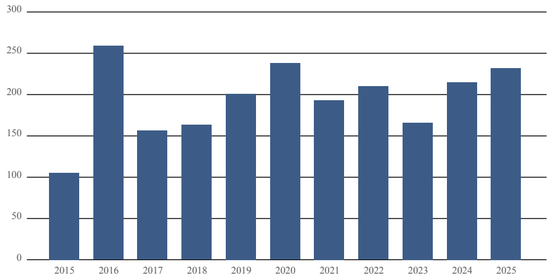
The Information Office is very often asked to provide legal advice. However, it is not competent to do so. In such cases, it refers the person to lawyers recorded in the Register of Lawyers maintained by the Czech Bar Association. In the interests of its own impartiality, the Supreme Court cannot provide legal advice.

In order to promote legal awareness and to make the Supreme Court more visible to the public, the online quarterly AEQUITAS has been published since 2017. Its main purpose is to introduce judges and other employees to the professional and general public. It also serves to highlight various judicial topics or to inform about the daily functioning of the Supreme Court as well as, for example, about important visits or major judicial events, which are often with international participation. Articles with a historical perspective or articles of a more leisurely nature are no exception. A broader team of authors is involved in the preparation of the quarterly. From the Information Office it is the Head of the Information Office and the Advisor on Matters Related to the Information Act. Articles and interviews are also provided by other Supreme Court employees and judges, particularly the Spokesperson and an Adviser of the Department of Analytics and Comparative Law.

8. 2. Providing Information in Accordance with the Information Act

In the last year, the Supreme Court received a total of 232 written requests for information in accordance with the Information Act. Compared to the year before that, the "Zin" agenda has seen an increase by 17 requests.

When examining a longer time series, there is a clear gradual increase in the agenda, which in recent years has oscillated around 200 to 230 requests for information per year: 2015 – 105 requests, 2016 – 259 requests, 2017 – 156 requests, 2018 – 164 requests, 2019 – 202 requests, 2020 – 237 requests, 2021 – 193 requests, 2022 – 210 requests, 2023 – 166 requests, 2024 – 215 requests, 2025 – 232 requests.



Number of requests to provide information

In case of 19 requests, these were not processed on their merits. Of this number, 9 requests were withdrawn by their submitters, 10 requests were set aside in their entirety by the obliged entity for lack of competence. In 6 proceedings, the requests were set aside only partially. Thus, the most frequent reason for setting aside a request was the fact that the request for the provision of information did not belong to the obliged entity's scope of competence in accordance with Section 2(1) of the Information Act.

A total of 212 requests were dealt with on merits. In 2025, fees for exceptionally extensive searches pursuant to Section 17(1) of the Informa-

tion Act were calculated in one case. By the end of 2025, the calculated fee had not been paid, nor had the time period for payment expired, so the request was recorded as pending.

Granted in full were 118 requests, and another 14 cases were granted at least partially. In the case of 54 requests, the submitters were fully referred to published information; in another 2 cases, they were partially referred to published information.

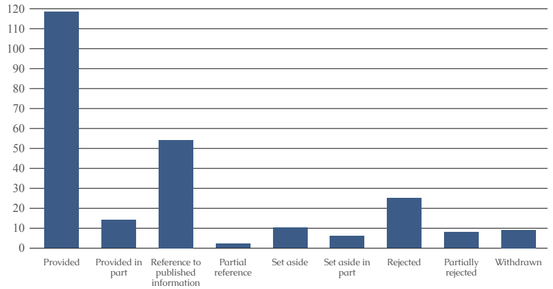
The obliged entity rejected 25 requests in full and 8 in part. The most common reason for rejecting a request in full was that the submitters demanded the provision of new, i.e., non-existent information. Another very common reason for the rejection of requests for information was to protect the Supreme Court's decision-making in accordance with Section 11(4)(b) of the Information Act. There have also been repeated rejections of applications in cases where the applicants sought the opinion of the obliged entity.

A total of 4 appeals were lodged by the submitters against the decision to fully or partially reject a request. All appeals were referred to the appellate authority for decision. The appeals filed were not decided in 2025.

A total of 2 appeals were lodged by the submitters against the way the request was handled. All appeals were referred to the appellate authority for decision.

In one case the appeal was rejected, and in the other the decision of the obliged entity to discontinue the request for information was annulled.

The obligated entity subsequently rejected the request, stating that it was a request for information that the Supreme Court does not possess.



Method of processing requests for the provision of information

9. THE SPOKESPERSON

The Spokesperson Gabriela Tomíčková is responsible for the external communication of the Supreme Court and actively supports its transparency towards the public. Her agenda includes communicating with the media, management of the Supreme Court's social media, coordination of both educational activities and activities of popular-educational nature and participation in the preparation of professional publications.

In 2025, a substantial part of her work consisted of communication with the media. The Spokesperson was the primary contact person between the Supreme Court and journalists and responded to approximately 2,000 inquiries, primarily related to professional and publicly followed court decisions. At the same time, she prepared 65 press releases. She also organised meetings between media representatives and members of the Supreme Court, which strengthened mutual cooperation and trust.

Digital communication represented a significant part of her agenda. In 2025 she published approximately 800 posts on the Supreme Court's social media platforms, covering case law, press releases, information on the Supreme Court's everyday activities, and educational content.

An important part of her work was also the organisation of guided tours and educational activities. In 2025, the Supreme Court was visited by approximately 1,400 people, mainly students from primary and secondary schools. During these guided tours, the Spokesperson presented the Supreme Court's competences, agenda and functioning, and introduced students to the work of judges. These activities support the legal awareness and contribute to the long-term strengthening of public trust in the functioning of the judiciary.

A traditional part of the Spokesperson's agenda was the organisation of the "Night of Law" event. It is a nationwide event, in which the Supreme Court has been regularly participating since its pilot year in 2019. The main idea of this initiative is to show the public that law is not intended solely for legal professionals. The Spokesperson was responsible for the preparation of the program, coordination with the partner institutions and speakers and promotion of the event in the media and on social media platforms. In 2025, 110 people visited the Supreme Court as part of the "Night of Law" event.

A significant component of her work was publication-related agenda, in particular cooperation on the publishing of the electronic quarterly AEQUITAS and the compilation of the Supreme Court Yearbook.

The year 2025 confirmed the importance of the role of the Spokesperson for the functioning of the Supreme Court as an open and clearly communicating institution. Her everyday work had a direct impact on the Supreme Court's media image and supported the fulfillment of the principles of a transparent and trustworthy judiciary.

10. THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST DEPARTMENT

10. 1. Activities of the Department

In accordance with the Act No 159/2006 Coll., on Conflict of Interest, as amended, the Supreme Court is responsible for receiving and recording notifications of activities, assets, income, and obligations of judges of the Czech Republic, as well as for storing the data in these notifications and supervising the completeness thereof.

The Conflict of Interest Department of the Supreme Court, which consists of four employees, underwent a significant personnel change at the end of 2025. As of 31 December 2025, the Head of the Department, who had been involved since its inception and had shaped its procedures, left her post. As of 1 January 2026, the management of the Department was entrusted to her successor, thereby fully ensuring continuity in the performance of the statutory agenda relating to public officials – judges.

All judges registered in the Central Register of Notifications compiled by the Ministry of Justice are obliged to file notifications when commencing and terminating their duties and further periodically at the times prescribed by the Conflict of Interest Act. Notifications are sent to the Supreme Court in writing on a specific form, the structure and format of which are set by the Ministry of Justice in the Decree No 79/2017 Coll., on Determining the Structure and Format of Notifications under the Act on Conflict of Interest, as amended. These notifications are then kept for a period of five years from the date the judges ceased to exercise their function. The register of judges' notifications is an autonomous and separate register and is confidential. The information contained cannot even be disclosed under the Act No 106/1999 Coll., on Free Access to Information, as amended. Only entities directly designated in the law have access to the information contained in individual notifications.

Judges who were in office as of 1 January 2025 filed "interim notifications" for the period they were in office in the 2024 calendar year and were required to do so by 30 June 2025. During the procedure for the submission of interim notifications for 2024, issues surrounding methodology were handled in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice. Information about the obligation to submit notifications was sent to the Presidents of individual courts on an ongoing basis. The Department's members answered telephone and email inquiries and provided per-

sonal consultations. All necessary information was published in a specially created section on the Supreme Court's website.

In 2025, the Department also received and recorded entry notifications from newly appointed judges and exit notifications from judges who ceased to exercise their functions.

In the first half of 2026, the Department will receive and register interim notifications from judges for the period during which they held office in the calendar year 2025 and will send acknowledgements of receipt to the judges. Entry and exit notifications will also be received and recorded. Throughout 2026, the Department will continue to oversee the completeness of the data contained in the notifications received. The checks will consist primarily of verifying the formal requirements and the completeness of all mandatory data, as required by the Act on Conflict of Interest. The structure and format of the notifications are determined by the above-mentioned Decree of the Ministry of Justice. The data in the notifications will then be compared with the data contained in other public-administration information systems to which the Supreme Court's Conflict of Interest Department has access (e.g. the Cadastre of Real Estate and Registry of Motor Vehicles).

10. 2. Statistics on the Departmental Activities

As of 1 January 2025, the Central Register of Notifications maintained by the Ministry of Justice listed 3,039 serving judges. Three of these judges subsequently died, two of whom have filed their interim notifications, so the statutory obligation to file an interim notification for 2024 applied to 3,038 judges.

As of 31 December 2025, 3,036 judges have filed interim notifications for 2024. Two judges have not filed the notification. In accordance with the Conflict of Interest Act, 74 judges took office in 2025 and thus had a duty to file an entry notification. Judges who were given a time limit for submitting their entry notifications in 2025 submitted their notifications.

The notification obligation in connection with the termination of office arose in 2025 for 66 judges who submitted their exit notifications, except for two of them. In their case, there was a simultaneous failure to submit both the interim notification for 2024 and the exit notification. The Supreme Court will request that the missing notification be filed. If this request is not complied with, an administrative offence will be reported and forwarded for hearing before the municipal authority in whose territorial district the person, who was a public official, has permanent residence.

In 2025, the completeness of the notifications submitted by 203 judges was checked, with a total of 239 notifications reviewed.

11. DATA PROTECTION OFFICER

In 2025, the Data Protection Officer continued to perform her duties as an advisory and supervisory body in the area of personal data protection at the Supreme Court. Over the course of the year, she responded to a number of telephone, email, and verbal inquiries from employees and judges. During the year, the Data Protection Officer also responded to a request from the public when she was asked by a law student to answer a number of research questions concerning the pseudonymization of personal data at the Supreme Court. The Data Protection Officer also had to respond to a change in the law, when disciplinary proceedings returned to the Supreme Court and a Disciplinary Panel was established. For this reason, it was necessary to amend an internal regulation – the Directive on the Pseudonymization of Supreme Court Decisions When Publishing and Providing Them – and prepare it for disciplinary decisions. Following instructions from the court management, the Data Protection Officer, in cooperation with the Head of the Department of Documentation and Analytics of Czech Case Law, added this new agenda to the pseudonymization rules, which are annexed to this Directive. On this occasion, minor changes were also made to the existing pseudonymization rules in response to comments from employees performing pseudonymization and the advisor to the President of the Court.

Given that the Data Protection Officer of the Supreme Court acts as a supervisory authority in the area of personal data protection for high courts, several consultations were also held in this regard. A frequent topic was working with artificial intelligence-based tools. Given the nature of this issue, the Data Protection Officer cooperated with the Cyber Security Administrator at the Supreme Court in addressing it. At the end of the calendar year, the Data Protection Officer asked both high courts for a report in the area of personal data for the past year. This concluded another year of excellent cooperation with both high courts.

12. THE SUPREME COURT LIBRARY

The Supreme Court Library serves primarily to judges, judicial assistants, advisers and other employees of the Supreme Court. As information and on-site loans are also provided to experts among members of the general public, the Supreme Court Library has been registered at the Ministry of Culture as a specialised public library since 2002. The Library catalogue can be accessed on the Supreme Court's website (www.nsoud.cz).

In addition to the Library catalogue, specialised legal literature databases, such as ASPI, Beck Online and other legal databases available online, are also used to answer users' inquiries.

The Library currently has a book collection comprising over 32,300 volumes of books, bound annual volumes of journals, and other printed and electronic documents. Although the Library mostly offers legal literature and case law, there are also, to a lesser extent, publications on philosophy, psychology, political science and history.

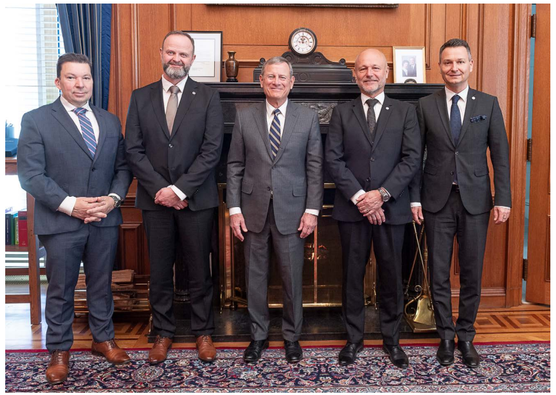
In 2025, the book collection was expanded to include almost 300 new titles. The Library's services are used by approximately 800 people. Library staff answered more than 400 internal and external inquiries.

The response from Library visitors to the newly built premises, to which the Library moved in September 2019, continues to be very positive. After many years, *de facto* since the beginning of the functioning of the Supreme Court in Brno in 1993, the Library can finally provide its services to readers in more welcoming conditions.

CLOSING REMARKS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT

Even King Solomon, in his proverbial wisdom knew, that "the more words, the less sense". Although the Yearbook cannot fully capture the life and functioning of the institution that publishes it, it contains basically everything that a publication of this type should tell its readers. There is therefore no need for me to add anything to it. I can only wish that the Supreme Court will, in the coming year, fulfil the role for which it was created and which it is supposed to play in society a little better than in the previous year. This is notwithstanding the fact that the current procedural framework makes it difficult, to put it mildly.

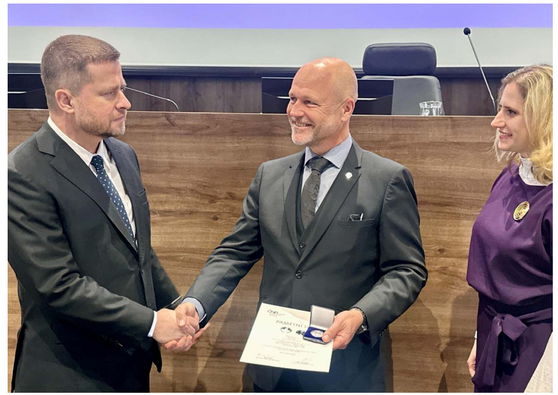
Petr Šuk



The President of the Supreme Court, Petr Angyalossy, and the Director of the Office of the President of the Supreme Court, Aleš Pavel, met with the President of the Supreme Court of the United States, John Roberts.
From left: the Czech Ambassador in the United States, Miloslav Stašek; judge of the Supreme Court, Lubomír Ptáček.; the President of the Supreme Court of the United States, John Roberts; the President of the Supreme Court, Petr Angyalossy; the Director of the Office of the President of the Supreme Court, Aleš Pavel. Washington, 15 January 2025.

The evening program of the "Night of Law" event focused on a discussion about international criminal justice with the participation of Robert Fremr (right), Petr Angyalossy, Ivana Hrdličková and Aleš Pavel. The program also included a screening of the film about the Srebrenica genocide *Quo vadis, Aida?* Brno, 5 March 2025.

Meeting of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union and the judges of the Court of Justice of the European Union. Luxembourg, 28 March 2025.

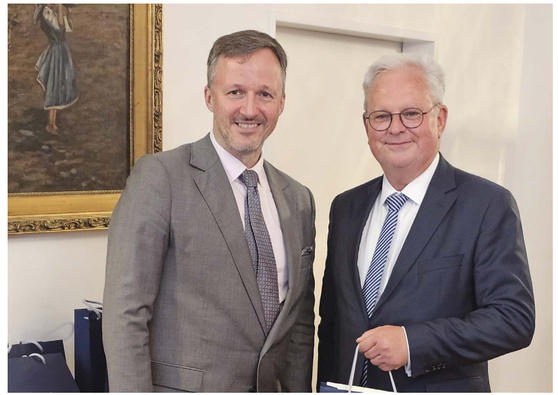


The President of the Supreme Court, Petr Angyalossy, received a commemorative coin featuring the Supreme Court from the Governor of the Czech National Bank, Aleš Michl. Brno, 2 April 2025.

A working meeting of the divisions of the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic and the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic. The main topics of the meeting were recent changes in labour law and the regulation of the admissibility of appeals. Hluboká nad Vltavou, 13–14 May 2025.

Group photograph of the participants of the meeting of the Board of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, held in Estonia, 21– 23 May 2025.

The Supreme Court hosted a delegation from the Higher Regional Court in Nuremberg *(Oberlandesgericht Nürnberg)*. The main purpose of the visit was to strengthen cooperation and deepen the exchange of experience between the judicial institutions of the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. Brno, 22 May 2025.

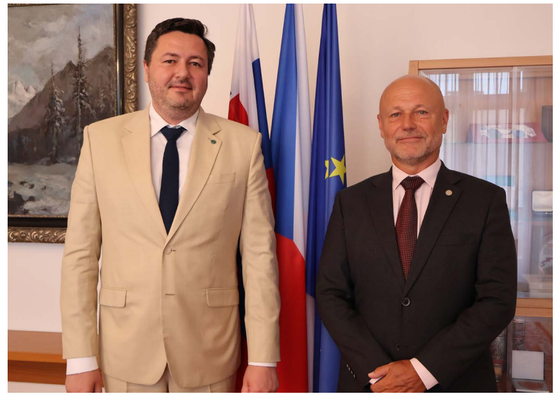


The Vice-President of the Supreme Court, Petr Šuk, with the President of the Higher Regional Court in Nuremberg, Thomas Dickert. Brno, 22 May 2025.

The President of the Criminal Panel of the Supreme Court, Věra Kůrková, was awarded the title of Lawyer of the Year in the Criminal Law category. Brno, 23 May 2025.

The President of the Supreme Court, Petr Angyalossy, took part in a series of meetings with representatives of the Latvian judiciary. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen cooperation and exchange experience between the supreme courts of both countries in key areas of legal practice and judicial administration. Riga, 25–27 May 2025.

The Grand Panel of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court received the award for the best judgment at the Karlovy Vary Law Days conference. In the photograph: the President of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, František Púry. Karlovy Vary, 12–14 June 2025.



The President of the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic, Petr Angyalossy, with the President of the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic František Mozner. Brno, 16 July 2025.

Meeting of the Comparative Law Group in Ljubljana on 11–12 September 2025.

At the Supreme Court, a seminar was held, focusing on the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and the presentation of a human-rights web portal. Brno, 17 September 2025.

The Supreme Court was visited by a delegation of the Constitutional Court of Spain, led by its President, Cándido Conde-Pumpido Tourón. The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen institutional relations between the two courts and to exchange experience in the functioning of the judiciary, with particular emphasis on the efficiency of judicial proceedings and the reduction of excessive caseloads of supreme judicial authorities. Brno, 17 September 2025.

Judge of the Supreme Court Michal Králík received the Silver Medal of Antonín Randa, awarded by the Council of the Union of Czech Lawyers as a recognition of his contributions to the development of legal science and legal practice. In the photograph with Pavel Rychetský, former President of the Constitutional Court. Prague, 7 November 2025.

The President of the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic Petr Angyalossy was re-elected Vice-President of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union at the General Assembly meeting of this prestigious European judicial organisation. The Hague, 14 November 2025.

The President of the Supreme Court, Petr Angyalossy, and the Director of the Office of the President of the Supreme Court, Aleš Pavel, took part in a working trip to South Korea, where they met with representatives of the Supreme Court, the Constitutional Court, the Prosecutor General's Office, and the Embassy of the Czech Republic (pictured during their visit to the Supreme Court of South Korea). Seoul, 25 November–3 December 2025.

Former judge of the Criminal Division. Antonín Draštík, whose tenure ended at the end of 2025, receiving a glass statuette representing scales as a symbol of justice from the President of the Supreme Court, Petr Angyalossy to honor his service. Brno, 7 January 2026.

During the guided tours in 2025, nearly 1,400 students visited the Supreme Court, primarily from secondary and elementary schools. The youngest participants were third-grade pupils form Sirotkova Elementary School in Brno.

The Supreme Court Yearbook 2025

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