

TRANSPARENCY IN THE ACTIVITY OF THE NEW COMPOSITION OF THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF MAGISTRACY

(October 2023 – October 2024)

IN BRIEF ABOUT THE FUNCTIONING OF THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF MAGISTRACY (SCM)



TRANSPARENCY OF THE SCM



SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS

- ✓ Most meetings are held in public (exception: examination of certain subjects/challenges, in order not to prejudice the interests of justice or to protect privacy)
- ✓ Decisions of the SCM plenum are voted in open session
- ✓ All reasoned decisions indicate the number of votes “in favour” and “against”



IDENTIFIED SHORTCOMINGS

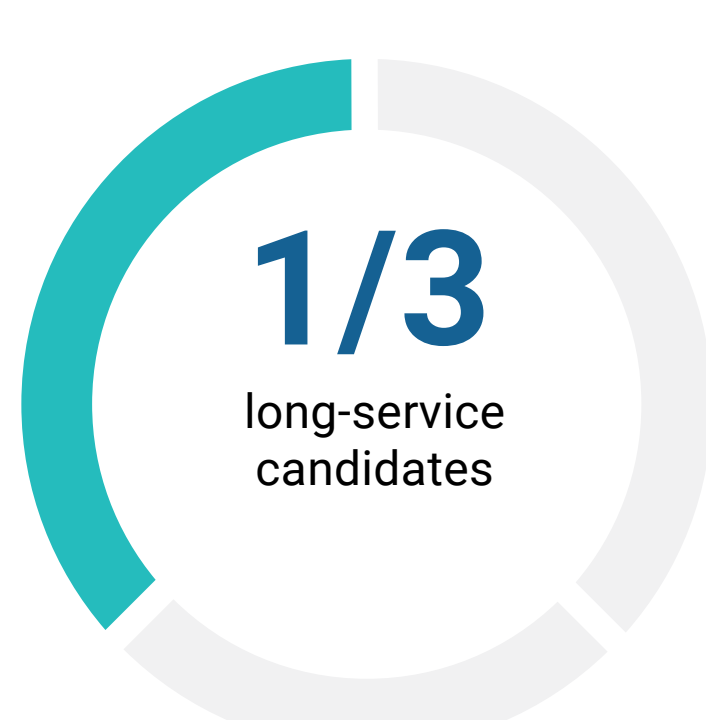
- ✗ Minutes and summaries of SCM meetings were published in full in only 55% of cases
- ✗ Partial publication of documents (only minutes or only summaries) was observed in 39% of cases
- ✗ Minutes and summaries of 3 SCM meetings were missing

The new composition of the SCM applies higher standards of transparency in its work.

JUDGES' CAREERS – THE ROLE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SCM

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

2 open competitions organized by the SCM
Result: **39 candidates** proposed for appointment as judge, of which:



Candidates in the competition are assessed through a weighted scoring system and more in-depth interviews.

RESIGNATIONS, SUSPENSIONS AND DISMISSALS OF JUDGES



31 judges resigned on their own initiative

10 judges, accused of committing offenses, were suspended by SCM decisions

10 judges were dismissed from office (reasons: failure to pass vetting, unaccepted repeated requests for reappointment, sentencing)

THE VETTING PROCESS

23 reports of the Commission for the external evaluation of candidates for the Supreme Court of Justice examined:

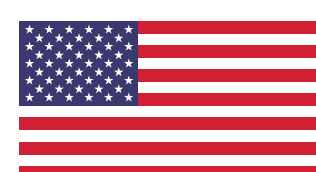
REJECTED	ACCEPTED	
1 report	13 reports	9 reports
referred to the Evaluation Commission for repeated examination	on passing the vetting	on failing to pass the vetting

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SCM

- Recruit the necessary staff to increase the efficiency of the institution
- Update the website regularly with recent internal acts
- Publish draft decisions and meeting materials in a timely manner
- Increase transparency and visibility of SCM meetings by continuing live broadcasting and diversifying channels
- Improve the communication strategy to maintain and promote proactive and transparent approaches



For more findings and recommendations, see the Analytical Note [“Results of Monitoring the Activity of the Superior Council of Magistracy \(2023-2024\)”](#)



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