

## Country Report 2025 - Slovenia

### **I. Statistical Data**

*On the basis of a public mandate under the Law on the Legal Profession, the Slovenian Bar Association maintains a register of all practising lawyers, trainee lawyers, and legal trainees in the Republic of Slovenia. Membership in the Slovenian Bar Association is also mandatory for lawyers, as well as for trainee lawyers and legal trainees.*

*As of 31 December 2025, there were 1,920 lawyers (990 male and 930 female). In 2025, 78 new lawyers were registered, and 73 lawyers were removed from the register. On 31 December 2025, 20 foreign lawyers were registered in the register of foreign lawyers (14 male and 6 female).*

*On 31 December 2025, 102 trainee lawyers (41 male and 61 female) were registered in the register of trainee lawyers, and 205 legal trainees (76 male and 129 female) were registered in the register of legal trainees.*

*On 31 December 2025, there were 305 law firms and 27 civil law firms actively operating in the Republic of Slovenia.*

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### **II. The Work of the Slovenian Bar Association in 2025**

*Below we highlight the main activities and achievements of the Slovenian Bar Association in 2025.*

#### **1. Adjustment of the Value of the Attorney Point**

*The value of the attorney point in the Republic of Slovenia is determined by the Attorney Tariff, which is adopted by the Slovenian Bar Association (OZS) and confirmed by the Minister of Justice. The tariff also specifies the conditions for changing the value of the attorney point. A change is possible if the increase in the cost of living or the increase in judicial salaries since the last adjustment of the value of the attorney point exceeds 10 percent. The decision to change the value of the attorney point is adopted by the Administrative Board of the Slovenian Bar Association and must be approved by the Minister of Justice.*

*The last confirmed adjustment of the value of the attorney point was made in 2019, to EUR 0.60. Due to the significant rise in inflation, the Administrative Board of the Slovenian Bar Association decided in December 2022 to adjust the value of the attorney point to EUR 0.70. Despite repeated requests, the Ministry of Justice did not grant its consent. In September 2024, due to continuing inflation, the OZS Management Board adopted a new decision to adjust the value of the attorney point to EUR 0.74. As the Ministry did not approve this decision either, or failed to respond to the request for approval, the OZS filed a lawsuit against the Ministry of Justice in December 2024 due to administrative silence.*

*In its ruling of 28 October 2025, the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia upheld the OZS's appeal and ordered the Ministry of Justice to decide on the OZS's proposal for issuing consent within 90 days.*

*As inflation had risen by 26.4% between the last adjustment in April 2019 and November 2025, the OZS Management Board adopted a new decision in December 2025 to further adjust the value of the attorney point to EUR 0.76 and requested the Ministry of Justice to grant its consent. In accordance with the Administrative Court's ruling, the Ministry was required to make a decision by the end of January 2026 at the latest. On 27 January 2026, the Ministry of Justice decided not to give its consent to adjusting the value of the attorney point to EUR 0.76 or EUR 0.74. As the OZS considers that the conditions for harmonising the value of the attorney point have been met, it will file a lawsuit against the Ministry of Justice and pursue other available legal remedies.*

## **2. Amendment to the Attorneys Act (ZOdv-H)**

*In February 2023, the Republic of Slovenia received an official warning from the European Commission (EC) regarding the alleged restriction of lawyers' advertising. According to the EC, the Law on Advocacy allegedly restricts advertising by lawyers, which would constitute incorrect implementation or transposition of EU legal acts.*

*The Slovenian Bar Association (OZS) immediately became actively involved in preparing a response in the pre-judicial proceedings. Together with the Ministry of Justice, it comprehensively and argumentatively rejected the EC's allegations. Slovenian regulation does not prohibit advertising by lawyers entirely but merely regulates it in accordance with the rules and principles of the legal profession. Such regulation is common across Europe and consistent with the status and role of the legal profession. Despite these arguments, in December 2024, the EC announced that it would continue proceedings against Slovenia for alleged infringements of the Services Directive.*

*In 2025, the Ministry of Justice began preparing amendments to the Law on the Legal Profession to lift the ban on certain forms of advertising by lawyers. The aim of the proposed amendment is not to fully liberalise advertising but to regulate lawyers' business communication proportionately, in accordance with European law and the protection of the integrity of the profession. The Slovenian Bar Association actively participated in drafting the amendment, proposing modifications and additions to provisions concerning disciplinary violations by lawyers and sanctions against individuals representing clients in court for a fee, as such paid representation is reserved for lawyers under the Law on the Legal Profession. The Act is expected to be adopted in early 2026.*

*In 2025, the Bar Association continued preparing the text of a new Bar Act, which will revise the entire law. Individual articles are currently being coordinated with the working group of the Ministry of Justice.*

### **3. Participation in the Preparation of Amendments in the Area of Court Costs**

*Due to a significant increase in cases within the free legal aid system—where parties are entitled to free legal aid and court representation, with costs covered by the state—the financial resources allocated by Slovenia for this purpose have risen substantially in recent years.*

*At the end of 2024, the Ministry of Justice established a working group to prepare systemic solutions regarding court costs. In addition to representatives of the Ministry and the judiciary, the OZS has actively participated in the working group from the start. Lawyers are virtually the sole providers of free legal aid in court proceedings.*

*In 2025, the working group began analyzing the situation, identifying problems and their causes, and preparing specific proposals for legislative changes and new systemic solutions in this area.*

### **4. Supervision under the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Act (ZPPDFT-2)**

*ZPPDFT-2 authorizes the Slovenian Bar Association to supervise lawyers and law firms in fulfilling their obligations to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing under this Act.*

*In 2025, the Slovenian Bar Association carried out 11 inspections of larger law firms in Ljubljana, Maribor, and Koper, two of which focused on real estate transactions. Audits showed that the reviewed law firms were mostly low-risk, with an established client base within the EU. The main shortcomings related to misunderstandings of the non-transferability of obligations under ZPPDFT-2, narrow interpretation of the concept of politically exposed persons, and incomplete maintenance of legally required records.*

*Based on these findings, the Slovenian Bar Association will take appropriate measures and provide additional professional guidance as part of training for lawyers on implementing mandatory measures to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing in practice.*

### **5. Training of Lawyers and Promotion of the Legal Profession**

*In 2025, the Slovenian Bar Association continued organizing numerous training and education programs for lawyers, lawyer candidates, and trainee lawyers through its Law Academy. Among the most important was the traditional 26th Law School, attended by more than 500 participants.*

*The Bar Academy continued providing regular basic and advanced training for lawyers representing juvenile offenders. Furthermore, the Academy offered training to prepare young lawyers for the state bar exam, a prerequisite for practising as a lawyer and being entered in the register of lawyer candidates. This training is conducted in cooperation with judges who share practical experience with trainee lawyers. In 2025, the Academy also successfully conducted training for family lawyers.*



## **6. Institute of the Advisor for Ethical Issues**

*The Advisor for Ethical Issues at the Slovenian Bar Association was established in 2024 to provide lawyers with professional assistance in ethical dilemmas arising in their practice or private lives. The advisor may be a lawyer or retired lawyer with high professional respect, reputation, and trust among colleagues. The advisor has two deputies, and the term of office is three years.*

*In 2025, lawyers contacted the advisor by phone or in writing, with confidentiality and professionalism always ensured. Through this service, the Slovenian Bar Association offers its members immediate, free, professional, and confidential consultation. The institution of the advisor is highly appreciated among members.*

## **7. Mediation Center at the Slovenian Bar Association**

*The Mediation Center at the Slovenian Bar Association, established in 2017, continued its activities in 2025, aiming to become the largest private out-of-court mediation center in Slovenia. Growing confidence in the center's work is demonstrated by its mediation in a dispute over doctors' salaries between the Slovenian Medical Association and the Ministry of Health. In addition to institutional mediation, the center also mediates numerous disputes between individuals in various legal and personal matters.*

## **8. Charity Work by the Slovenian Bar Association**

*Through its Humanitarian Aid Fund, which celebrated 20 years of operation in 2025 and to which all lawyers contribute financially, the Slovenian Bar Association regularly assists socially vulnerable individuals and humanitarian organizations. In 2025, the Association distributed nearly €60,000 through its Humanitarian Aid Fund to help those in need.*

**Janez Starman, President**

