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**BALKAN NETWORK TEMPLATE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF  
HUNGARY**

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**HUNGARY**

<b>Official name in original language</b>	<b>Országos Bírói Tanács</b>
<b>Official name in English</b>	National Judicial Council
<b>Address</b>	H-1055 Budapest, Szalay street 16.
<b>Telephone number</b>	+36-1/3544100
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<b>Brief history</b> (300-400 character)	<p>The NJC has started its activity on the 15th of March, 2012.</p> <p>The National Judicial Council (NJC) is the supervisory organ – as a body - of the central administration of courts.</p> <p>The seat of the NJC is in Budapest, and it has 15 members.</p> <p>Regarding its members, only the president of the Curia is delegated, according to the Act CLXI of 2011 on the Organisation and Administration of Courts. The other 14 judge members of the NJC shall be elected in a secret ballot by majority vote at the meeting of the delegated judges.</p> <p>At the time of the first election, the meeting of the delegated judges shall elect one judge of a regional court of appeal, 5 judges of courts of appeal, 7 judges of local courts and one judge of an administrative and labour court.</p>
<b>Legal acts regulating the Status of the Organization</b>	The Fundamental Law of Hungary Article 25 and Act CLXI of 2011 on the Organization and Administration of the Courts
<b>Composition</b> (Generally)	<p>The NJC consists of 15 judges.</p> <p>The members are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the president of the Curia,</li><li>• a judge from a Regional Court of Appeal,</li><li>• 5 judges from Regional Courts,</li><li>• 7 judges from District Courts,</li><li>• a judge from an Administrative and Labour Court.</li></ul>

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The membership of the president of the Curia is based on Act CLXI of 2011 on the organization and administration of the courts. The other members are elected by the conference of judges by a secret ballot.

**1. Total number of members:  
15**

**2. Term of office of the members  
6 years**

**3. Election process:**

The meeting of delegates entitled to elect the members of the NJC shall elect – from among the delegates – one judge from the regional court of appeal, five judges from the tribunal, seven judges from the district courts and one judge from the administrative and labour court to be judge members of the NJC.

Simultaneously upon electing the judge members of the NJC, the meeting of the delegates shall elect 14 judges as alternate members from among the delegates, defining an order based on the number of votes in a manner which rules out a tied vote.

Should the number of valid majority votes exceed the upper limit, from among the candidates, those who received the highest number of votes shall be considered as elected members (alternate members of the NJC).

**4. Is there a possibility to be renewed as a member?  
no**

**5. Do the members have a full-time position or not?  
not**

**Is there a majority of  
Judges?**

yes

The president and the deputy president of the NJC

**Presidency  
(Generally)**

The NJC shall be represented and led by the President.

The presidential position of the NJC shall be filled by members on a rotational basis; members shall rotate every 6 months in the following manner: the first to fill the position shall be the judge with the longest judicial service, followed by the other members in descending order of

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the length of their judicial service.

The President of the NJC - if unable to attend - shall be substituted by the Deputy President. The position of the Deputy President shall be filled on a rotational basis in the following manner: the first to fill the position of the Deputy President shall be the judge with the second longest judicial service and will be followed by the other members – as in the case of the president - in a descending order of the length of their judicial service.

**Role of the Presidency**

The NJC shall be represented and led by the President.

**Tasks of the National Judicial Council (NJC)**

In the field of overall central administration, OBT:

*a)* shall oversee the central administration activity of the President of OBH, and shall notify the President of OBH where considered appropriate;

*b)* shall recommend to the President of OBH the exercise of the right provided for introduce bills of legislation concerning the judicial system to the entity entitled to initiate legislation;

*c)* shall form an opinion on the directives and recommendations issued by the President of OBH;

*d)* shall approve the rules of procedure of the court of judges and shall post it on the central website, and shall approve the report of the court of judges on its previous year's case load and judicial practice and shall make it available on the intranet;

*e)* shall approve the Code of Ethics of judges, and shall publish it on the central website.

In the field of budget planning, OBT:

*a)* shall assess the proposal for the budget of courts and the report on the implementation thereof;

*b)* shall monitor the financial management of the courts; and

*c)* shall assess the detailed conditions for and the amount of other benefits.

In the field of collecting statistics, case allocation and workload assessment, OBT:

*a)* may order - on an exceptional and duly justified basis - to grant priority to cases that concern the majority of the population or that are of the utmost importance with respect to the general public;

**Main Competences of the Council:**

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(5) OBT shall discharge other duties conferred under its competence by law.

**1. Career of judges and/or prosecutors: In the field of human resources, OBT:**

- a) shall, upon conducting personal interviews, convey its prior opinion concerning the person nominated to the President of OBH and the President of the Kúria;
- b) shall lay down the criteria for the evaluation of applications having regard to the competence of the President of OBH and the President of the Kúria where they intend to hire the applicant ranked second or third for the position in question;
- c) shall exercise the right of consent in the evaluation of applications where the President of OBH or the President of the Kúria intend to hire the applicant ranked second or third for the position in question;
- d) shall exercise the right of consent in connection with the appointment of court executives where the applicant did not receive the consent of the assessment body;
- e) shall decide concerning the granting of consent for the re-appointment of the president judges of courts of appeal, general courts, administrative and labor courts and district courts, and their deputies, if the president or the vice president in question has already completed two terms in the same office;
- f) shall publish its opinion once a year regarding the way the President of OBH and the President of the Kúria evaluates applications for judge's and court executive's positions;
- g) shall appoint the president and members of the court of judges;
- h) may grant exemption in the case of any conflict of interest existing between a court executive and his relative serving as a judge in the court under his supervision;
- i) shall conduct the supervisory procedure related to the financial disclosure statements made by judges;
- j) may award, by recommendation of the President of OBH, the title of "honorable general court judge", "honorable high court judge", "honorable Curia judge", "Curia counselor", or the title of "principal counselor" or "counselor" in the case of judicial staff, or may make a recommendation for the award of decoration, may award citation, merit or plaque at the initiative of the President of OBH, or may consent for the award of a citation, merit or plaque given by others;
- k) may concede, in the event of resignation of a judge, to reduce the period of notice below three months, or may

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	<p>excuse the judge from work duty for the period of notice on resignation in full or in part; and</p> <p>l) shall decide, upon the retirement of a judge or upon reaching the age stipulated as a reason for dismissal, pursuant to the Act on the Legal Status and Remuneration of Judges on the period of exemption from work duty during the period of resignation.</p>
	<p><b>2. Judicial training:</b></p> <p>In the field of training, OBT:</p> <p>a) shall make a recommendation for the central training regime; and</p> <p>b) shall assess the rules relating to the training framework for judges and to compliance with the requirements for further training.</p>
	<p><b>3. Discipline:</b></p> <p>shall approve the rules of procedure of the court of judges and shall post it on the central website, and shall approve the report of the court of judges on its previous year's case load and judicial practice and shall make it available on the intranet;</p>
	<p><b>4. Ethics:</b></p> <p>The national judicial council enforced the The Code of Judicial Conduct on the 10th of November, 2014.</p>
	<p><b>5. Opinions on legislation/other opinions:</b></p> <p>a) shall oversee the central administration activity of the President of OBH, and shall notify the President of OBH where considered appropriate;</p> <p>b) shall recommend to the President of OBH the exercise of the right provided for introduce bills of legislation concerning the judicial system to the entity entitled to initiate legislation;</p> <p>c) shall form an opinion on the directives and recommendations issued by the President of OBH;</p>
	<p><b>6. Others:</b></p>
<p><b>Status of decisions (Opinion, authorization, recommendation, decision)</b></p>	<p>OBT shall adopt its decisions relating to matters falling under its responsibility in meetings. Matters requiring extraordinary or immediate attention may be decided otherwise.</p> <p>OBT meetings shall convene at least four times every year, or as necessary. The President of OBT shall convene the meetings. An OBT meeting shall be called and the proposed issues shall be put on the agenda when supported by at least one-third of all OBT members. Items for which the OBT is responsible may be proposed for the agenda of an OBT meeting by the plenary meeting of the Kúria (Curia), and by the plenary session of any court of appeal or general court judges.</p> <p>OBT shall have a quorum when at least two-thirds of its members are present.</p> <p>OBT shall adopt its decisions by simple majority vote. In case of a draw, the President shall have a casting vote.</p>

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**Supervision  
(Transparency)**

**1. Over the Council:**

**2. Over the decisions:**

**International relations**

**1. Global relations:**

Member of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary

**2. Regional relations:**

Member of Balkan and Euro-Mediterranean Network of Councils for the Judiciary

**3. Bilateral relations:**

**Ongoing projects**

**1. With the European Union:**

**2. Regional:**

**3. Internal:**