

The Act on Slovak Radio

ACT No. 255/1991 Coll. of the Slovak National Council of 24 May 1991 on Slovak Radio

as amended by later regulations +)

The Slovak National Council has adopted this Act:

PART ONE

Establishment, status and role of Slovak Radio

Art. 1

1. This Act establishes Slovak Radio with registered office in Bratislava.
2. Slovak Radio comprises the Bratislava Studio, the Banská Bystrica Studio and the Košice Studio.

Art. 2

1. Slovak Radio is a national, independent, information, cultural and educational public service institution.
2. Slovak Radio is a legal entity.
3. Like a non-profit (contributory) organisation, Slovak Radio is financially directly linked to the state budget of the Slovak Republic, in which it has reserved a separate chapter.
4. Slovak Radio enters into the Company Register.

Art. 3

1. The role of Slovak Radio is to serve the public by producing and broadcasting programmes based on the principles of democracy, humanism, ethics, truthfulness, independence, professionalism and the rule of law.
2. The news and current affairs programmes of Slovak Radio serve to provide early and unbiased information to the public and create space for dialog; artistic, educational and entertainment programmes serve to develop and disseminate national culture and education and to promote the spiritual and moral standards of the society.
3. In addition to producing and broadcasting its own programmes, Slovak Radio also

fulfills its tasks by taking over and broadcasting programmes produced by other legal entities or natural persons.

Art. 4 Slovak Radio is competent:

- a. to broadcast on national and regional broadcasting circuits allocated to Slovak Radio up to date of coming into effect of this act, eventually on other circuits,
- b. to realise business activity,
- c. to widespread broadcasting on short waves abroad. The costs of this broadcasting are paid from State Budget.

Art. 5

1. Slovak Radio shares to provision of important interests of Slovak Republic in radio broadcasting on national level, to provision of domestic news on national level, to provision of foreign broadcasting and foreign news to extent agreed with other radio organisations in Slovak Republic.
2. Slovak Radio provides, by means of radio broadcasting in mother language, application of interests of minorities and ethnic groups living in the Slovak Republic.
3. Slovak Radio widespread its programmes using external, eventually its own technical facilities.
4. Slovak Radio has the obligation to provide broadcasting time to the state authorities necessary for emergency messages and other important public announcements.

Art. 6

Slovak Radio fulfills, in particular, the following tasks:

- a) it produces its own radio programme,
- b) it carries out transmissions and public records from political, cultural, religious, artistic, sports and other major events,
- c) it cooperates with the state, political, religious, economic, research, cultural, educational, artistic and sports institutions and civic associations,
- d) it contributes, by means of radio broadcasting, to promoting national culture and cultures of minorities living in the Slovak Republic, and to mediating cultural values of other nations,
- e) it creates, processes, duplicates and broadcasts its own audio recordings, including their distribution, loan, sale and further utilization,
- f) it carries out change, purchase and sale of radio programmes with domestic and foreign organisations and producers in range of issued permissions and licences,
- g) it takes part, within the sphere of its competence, in the activities of international organisations and concludes agreements with foreign institutions,
- h) it establishes and employs comprehensive data banks to support its own operation and to provide prompt information service, linked to the domestic and foreign information networks,
- i) it takes care of audio, written and visual materials of permanent documentary value presenting development of radio and radio production,
- j) it sets up and manages regional radio studios,
- k) it creates net of own stable and special reporters in Slovak republic and abroad and manages their activity,

- l) it constitutes and manages artistic bodies and ensembles, it organizes their public performances,
- m) it conducts radio survey, especially as regards viewers' rating of the quality of radio programmes.

PART TWO

Management of Slovak Radio

Art. 7

1. The Council of Slovak Radio ("council" hereinafter) is a body which guarantees the unbiasedness and independence of the Slovak Radio programmes. Council designates basic strategy of radio broadcasting, approves longterm programme schedules and broadcasting structure, proposes conception of economic and technical activity of Slovak Radio, approves proposal of budget and account balance and economic results of Slovak Radio, states rewards of the Director General. The Director General is entitled to a monthly salary equal to the double salary of a member of the National Council of Slovak Republic.

2. The council has nine members elected and revoked by the National Council of Slovak Republic. Proposal for the members of the council can be submitted by the appropriated Committee of the National Council of Slovak Republic, members of the National Council of Slovak Republic, the council, professional or civic associations from the field of culture and press. A member of the council can be called off if:

- a) he/she fails to attend three consecutive council meetings without appropriate excuse,
- b) he/she has been duly sentenced for a deliberate criminal offence,
- c) he/she was discharged from the competence to make legal acts or this competence was limited to him,
- d) or reasons arise following par.6.

3. Council members are appointed for a four-year term of office which starts on the date of their election (par. 2). First regular meeting of the council convenes the Chairman of The National Council of Slovak Republic not later than 15 days after election date. At first meeting the council elects its chairman and vicechairman.

4. If the council member surrendered the office or was called off (par. 1) during his/her term of office, the National Council of Slovak Republic shall elect new council member for time remaining in the term of office of a council member whose place has become vacant. New member shall be elected within 60 days from the date on which the seat of a council member became vacant.

5. A member of the council is rewarded for the execution of his/her function as well as his travel costs are reimbursed according to individual regulations 1). The amount of the reward is determined by the Statute of the council. The costs incurred by the activities of the council and its members are covered from the Slovak Radio budget.

6. A member of the council must not be President of the Republic, deputy of a legislative

body, member of the Government, head of a central body of public administration, state secretary, prosecutor, judge, member of armed corps, officer of a political party or political movement, persons employed by or having a legal relationship with a legal entity or a natural person operating a radio or television broadcasting organisation, persons working in the area of advertising and entrepreneur, if he/she himself/herself or person related to him/her, works in the field of radio or television broadcasting.

7. The council sets up its own advisory and consulting bodies and approved their statutes and session orders.

1) Act No. 119/1992 Coll. on Reimbursement of Travel Expenses

Art. 8

1. The Director General is elected and called off by the National Council of the Slovak Republic upon a proposal of the council.

2. The term of office for the Director General is four years, whereas the same person can be elected for two consecutive terms of office as a maximum.

3. The Director General constitutes a statutory body of Slovak Radio, he/she represents the Slovak Radio in its external relations, has managerial responsibility for the organisation of work and holds the role of the chief executive officer of the organisation under the labour law regulations.

4. The Director General shall attend all the meetings of the council.

Art. 9

deleted from 26 October 1992

PART THREE

Common, transition and final provisions

Art. 10

Slovak Radio protects and respects the independence of all producers and the freedom of professional expression of all creative television workers in carrying out their tasks.

Art. 11

1. The Slovak Radio Statute lays down the principles of internal organisation and specifies, in necessary detail, the tasks of Slovak Radio as well as the signs, symbols, names and tune.

2. The council shall submit its draft statute to the Chairman of the National Council of the Slovak Republic for approval not later than 30 days after its first meeting (Art. 7 par. 3).

Art. 11a

Term of office of council elected according to present regulations shall finish by coming into force of this act.

Art 12

1. With respect to labour relations, Slovak Radio is a successor to the rights and responsibilities of Czecho-Slovak Radio in Slovakia.

2. The division and transfer of assets and legal settlement of other property-related matters between the Czecho-Slovak Radio and Slovak Radio shall take place according to separate regulations 3) within three months from the establishment of Slovak Radio.

3) Art. 4 of the Act No. 136/1991 Coll. on force division between Czech and Slovak Federative Republic and Czech Republic and Slovak Republic in matters concerning press and another information means

Art 13

deleted from 26 October 1992

Art. 14

The following provisions are deleted:

1. Art. 6 of Act No. 17/1964 Coll. on Czechoslovak Radio

2. Art 13 of Act of the Slovak National Council No. 207/1968 Coll. on the Establishment of Ministries and Other Central Bodies of Public Administration of the Slovak Socialist Republic, insofar as it applies to the Regional Directorate of Czecho-Slovak Radio in Slovakia and its regional director.

Art. 15

This Act takes effect as of 1 July 1991.

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- Act No. 483/1992 Coll., effect from 26 October 1992

- Act No. 166/1993 Coll., effect from 30 July 1993

- Act No. 83/1995 Coll., effect from 27 April 1995

- Act No. 321/1996 Coll., effect from 19 November 1996

- Act No. 335/1998 Coll., effect from 9 November 1998