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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
(VENICE COMMISSION)

UKRAINE

DRAFT LAW, EXPLANATORY NOTE AND COMPARATIVE TABLE

**“ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW OF UKRAINE ‘ON THE
JUDICIARY AND THE STATUS OF JUDGES’ AND CERTAIN OTHER
LAWS OF UKRAINE ON IMPROVING THE SELECTION
PROCEDURES FOR THE POSITIONS OF A MEMBER OF THE HIGH
QUALIFICATION COMMISSION OF JUDGES AND A MEMBER OF
THE HIGH COUNCIL OF JUSTICE”**

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I. DRAFT LAW

Draft law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges’ and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice”

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine hereby resolves:

I. To amend the Law of Ukraine “On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges” (Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2016, No. 31, Art. 545, as amended) as follows:

1. In Article 95:

part five shall be amended to read as follows:

“5. A selection for the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine may be announced and held for all vacant posts of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine if there is more than one such vacant post”;

part nine shall be amended to read as follows:

“9. The High Council of Justice shall announce the start of the selection no later than three months before the expiration of the term of office of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, or no later than ten days from the date of early termination of the term of office or dismissal of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

The announcement regarding the start of the selection, as well as its conditions and timetable, shall be published by the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice on the official website of the High Council of Justice.”

in part fifteen, the words “The Selection Commission shall compile a list” shall be replaced by the words “The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall compile lists”, and the words “that shall be published” shall be replaced by the words “which shall be published”;

parts sixteen to eighteen shall be amended to read as follows:

“16. The selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure laid down in this Law and shall comprise the following stages:

1) admission to the selection based on the results of determining whether the candidate and the documents submitted by the candidate meet the requirements established by this Law;

2) the conduct of the special background check and the determination by the Selection Commission of the candidates' compliance with the integrity criterion on the basis of the consideration of the documents submitted by them, the results of the special vetting, and the relevant information from open sources;

3) the Selection Commission's determination of whether candidates meet the professional competence criterion and the identification of a list of candidates to be recommended to the High Council of Justice.

17. The High Council of Justice reviews the documents submitted by the candidates and shall adopt a reasoned decision regarding the compliance of the documents with the requirements established by this Law.

Candidates regarding whom the High Council of Justice has determined, based on the submitted documents, that they do not meet the requirements established by this Law, or candidates who have not submitted all the necessary documents, are disqualified from the selection.

The High Council of Justice shall publish on its official website a list of candidates admitted to the selection for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

If the number of candidates admitted to the selection is less than two per vacant position, a new selection shall be announced for such a vacant position.

18. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall ensure that a special background check is carried out in respect of candidates for the posts of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the Prevention of Corruption".

after part eighteen parts nineteen to twenty-four shall be added to read as follows:

"19. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice provides the Selection Commission with the results of the special background check on the candidate, as well as the documents of the candidates for membership on the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine who have been admitted to participate in the selection.

20. The Selection Commission shall examine the documents submitted by the candidate, the results of the special background check and the relevant information from publicly available sources in accordance with the procedure established by the Selection Commission.

Where there are reasonable doubts as to whether a candidate meets the integrity criterion, the Selection Commission shall conduct an interview with that candidate or request a written explanation from them.

Based on the results of the assessment of candidates' compliance with the integrity criterion, the Selection Commission adopts a reasoned decision on whether to admit or exclude a candidate from the next stage of the selection for the position of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. At the request of a candidate for the position of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, the Selection Commission shall provide the candidate with the decision regarding the candidate's exclusion from the next stage of the selection for the position of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

21. In order to determine whether candidates meet the professional competence criterion, the Selection Commission conducts interviews with the candidates.

22. The live broadcast of the interviews with candidates for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be carried out on the official website of the High Council of Justice.

23. Based on the results of the assessment of candidates' compliance with the criterion of professional competence, the Selection Commission adopts a reasoned decision regarding the recommendation for appointment to the post of member of the High Qualification

Commission of Judges of Ukraine. At the request of a candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, the Selection Commission shall explain to the candidate the reasons for not recommending him or her for the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

24. Based on the results of the selection, the Selection Commission determines the list of candidates for the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine to be recommended to the High Council of Justice.

The Selection Commission recommends to the High Council of Justice candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine at a ratio of at least than two candidates per vacant position (including at least two candidates from among judges or retired judges for each vacant position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine from among judges or retired judges)."

in this regard, parts nineteen to twenty-three shall be considered parts twenty-five to twenty-nine, respectively;

part nineteen shall be amended to read as follows:

"25. If a selection is held to fill all vacant posts of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, but the list of candidates recommended by the Selection Commission who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence contains less than two candidates per one vacant position, the High Council of Justice may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant position.

If a selection is held to fill a one vacant post on the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, but the list of candidates recommended by the Selection Commission who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence contains less than two candidates, the High Council of Justice shall announce a new selection for that vacant post";

add a new part thirty to read as follows:

"30. The Selection Commission shall, within five days of submitting the list of recommended candidates to the High Council of Justice, forward to the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice for safekeeping all documents and information received and/or collected by the Selection Commission during the selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine."

2. In part eighteen of Article 951:

part 3 shall be amended to read as follows:

"3) conducting a selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine based on criteria of integrity and professional competence, including the review of submitted documents, the results of a special background check, and relevant information from open sources";

delete the paragraph 4;

in this regard, clauses five to seven shall be considered clauses four to six;

clauses 5 to 7 shall be amended to read as follows:

“4) determining whether candidates meet the integrity criterion, including conducting interviews or requesting written explanations from candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine regarding whom there are reasonable doubts as to their compliance with the integrity criterion;

5) determining whether candidates meet the professional competence criteria, including conducting interviews with the selected candidates at its meeting

6) providing the High Council of Justice with recommendations regarding candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, with at least two candidates who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence for each vacant post (including at least two candidates from among judges or retired judges for each vacant post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine from among judges or retired judges).”

3. Section XII “Final and transitional provisions” shall be added with new clauses 50¹, 50² to read as follows:

“50¹. The announcement of the commencement of the second selection for the post of member of the Selection Commission, the conditions and timetable for its conduct shall be published in the newspaper “Holos Ukrainy” and shall be posted on the official website of the High Council of Justice within ten days of the entry into force of the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges’ and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice”.

The second composition of the Selection Commission shall consist of three persons from among judges or retired judges proposed by the Council of Judges of Ukraine, and three persons, at least one of whom is a citizen of Ukraine, proposed by international and foreign organisations which, in accordance with international or intergovernmental agreements, have provided Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or the prevention and combating of corruption over the last five years. Such international and foreign organisations shall jointly agree upon and submit a list.

The list of international and foreign organisations which, in accordance with international or intergovernmental agreements, have provided Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or the prevention and combating of corruption over the past five years, shall be drawn up by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and sent to the High Council of Justice within five days of the entry into force of the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges’ and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice”.

The Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in their stead shall request the bodies responsible for forming the Selection Commission to submit nominations for its membership no later than the next working day following receipt of the list of international and foreign organisations.

Candidates for the post of a member of the Selection Commission may be persons who have an impeccable professional reputation, public standing and meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence.

The body responsible for forming the Selection Commission shall submit to the High Council of Justice a list of candidates for membership of the Selection Commission within thirty days

of receiving the relevant request from the Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in their stead.

Lists of candidates for membership of the Selection Commission, submitted by the bodies responsible for its formation, shall be published on the official website of the High Council of Justice and the official web portal of the judiciary of Ukraine.

In the event that international and/or foreign organisations which, in accordance with international or intergovernmental agreements, have been providing Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or the prevention and combating of corruption over the past five years, fail, within the time limit specified in the seventh subparagraph of this paragraph, to propose candidates for the Selection Commission or propose a number of candidates insufficient to form a quorum of the Selection Commission, candidates for the Selection Commission shall be proposed, within fifteen days of receiving the relevant notification from the High Council of Justice, by the Council of Prosecutors of Ukraine, the Bar Council of Ukraine, and the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine, represented by its Presidium, shall nominate candidates for membership of the Selection Commission.

The Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in his stead shall appoint the members of the second composition of the Selection Commission no later than five days from the date of receipt of the lists of recommended candidates from all bodies responsible for forming the Selection Commission.

If the Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in their stead fails to appoint the members of the Selection Commission within the specified time limit, the first three candidates from the list of the Council of Judges of Ukraine and the list of international and foreign organisations shall be deemed appointed.

The second composition of the Selection Commission shall commence its work, provided that at least four members of the Selection Commission have been appointed, two of whom are nominated by international and foreign organisations, in accordance with the procedure laid down in this Law.

At the request of a member of the second composition of the Selection Commission, the Commission may engage interpreters to provide organisational and technical support for the exercise of that member's powers. The activities of such interpreters may be funded with the assistance of international technical aid.

The term of office of the Selection Commission and its members, appointed by the High Council of Justice in the composition specified in the second subparagraph of this paragraph, shall be two years from the date of appointment.

The Selection Commission, in the composition specified in the second subparagraph of this paragraph, shall, during the term of its powers, conduct a selection to fill vacant posts of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

A decision by the second composition of the Selection Commission regarding a candidate's compliance with the integrity criterion is adopted if it is voted for by at least four members of the Selection Commission, two of whom are nominated by international and foreign organizations. In the event of a tie between "for" and "against" votes, the votes of three members of the Selection Commission – two of whom are nominated by international and foreign organizations – shall be decisive.

A decision by the second composition of the Selection Commission regarding a candidate's compliance with the criterion of professional competence is adopted if it is voted for by at least four members of the Selection Commission, at least one of whom was nominated by international and foreign organizations.

The next composition of the Selection Commission shall be formed in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 951 of this Law.

50². As of the date of entry into force of the Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine 'On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges' and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice", the selection for vacant posts on the Selection Commission, announced by Decision No. 1543/0/15-25 of the High Council of Justice dated 22 July 2025, shall be deemed terminated.

II. Final and transitional provisions

1. This Law enters into force on the day following its publication.

2. To amend the following laws of Ukraine:

1) in the Law of Ukraine "On the High Council of Justice" (Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2017, No. 7-8, Art. 50, as amended):

in Article 9:

in the title, the words "for the Selection of Candidates for" shall be deleted;

in the first part:

the words "The selection of candidates" shall be replaced by the words "The selection for the post", and the words "convening the respective congress or conference shall, no later than forty-five calendar days in advance, notify the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice of the date and venue of the event" shall be replaced by the words "convening the relevant congress or conference shall, no later than six months before the expiration of a member's term of office on the High Council of Justice or within 14 days of the date of the member's early termination of office, shall adopt a decision to announce a selection for the position of a member of the High Council of Justice and shall notify the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice thereof";

new paragraph two shall be added to read as follows:

"A selection for the posts of a member of the High Council of Justice may be announced and held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice if there is more than one such vacant post";

part two shall be amended to read as follows:

"2. No later than the next working day after receiving the decision to announce a selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall publish on its official website an announcement regarding the selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice."

in part three, the words "the High Council of Justice or send them electronically no later than thirty calendar days before the date of the respective congress or conference" shall be replaced by the words "to the body convening the relevant congress or conference, or shall

send them by mail or electronic communication within 30 days from the date of publication of the announcement of the selection for the post of member of the High Council of Justice”;

in part four, the words “The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice” shall be replaced by the words “The body that convenes the relevant congress or conference,” and the words “on the official website of the High Council of Justice” shall be replaced by the words “on its official website”;

in part five:

the words “the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice on the last day specified in paragraph three of this Article. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice” shall be replaced by the words “the body convening the relevant congress or conference, if the documents are submitted in person. The body convening the relevant congress or conference,”;

new paragraph two shall be added to read as follows:

“The acceptance of documents submitted by mail ends on the fifth day following the expiration of the deadline for accepting such documents, as provided for in paragraph three of this Article.”;

part six to eight shall be amended to read as follows:

“6. The body that convenes the relevant congress or conference shall review the documents of candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, as specified in paragraph one of Article 8 of this Law, and, based on those documents, shall decide whether such candidates meet the requirements established by this Law.

Candidates regarding whom the body convening the relevant congress or conference, based on the submitted documents, has determined do not meet the requirements established by this Law, or candidates who have not submitted all the necessary documents, shall be disqualified from the selection.

If the number of candidates admitted to the selection is less than two per one vacant post, a new selection shall be announced for such a vacant post.

7. The body convening the relevant congress or conference shall, no later than the next working day after a decision is made regarding a candidate’s compliance with the requirements established by this Law for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, submit the candidate’s documents to the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice for the purpose of conducting a special background check in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Preventing Corruption,” as well as copies of such documents to the Ethics Council, to determine the candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity and to provide a list of candidates recommended for election to the post of member of the High Council of Justice.

The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice ensures that a special vetting is conducted regarding candidates for the posts of members of the High Council of Justice in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Preventing Corruption” and submits to the body convening the relevant congress or conference, and to the Ethics Council, a conclusion on the results of the special vetting of a candidate for the position of member of the High Council of Justice.

8. The Ethics Council provides the body convening the relevant convention or conference with an opinion on each candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, a list of candidates recommended for election to the High Council of Justice, as well

as copies of all documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council regarding the recommended candidates. The list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts on the High Council of Justice for which the selection has been announced.

If a selection is held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates per vacant post, the body convening the relevant congress or conference may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant post.

If a selection is held to fill a single vacant post on the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates, the body convening the relevant assembly or conference shall announce a new selection for that vacant post.”;

part nine shall be added with new paragraphs two to four to read as follows:

“The body convening the relevant congress or conference conducts an interview with a candidate who has passed a special check and has been included on the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council, in order to assess the candidate’s professional competence.

Based on the results of the interview, the body convening the relevant congress or conference shall make a decision regarding each candidate for the post of member of the High Council of Justice.

The body convening the relevant congress or conference submits its decision regarding each candidate, a report on the results of the special check, the Ethics Council’s opinion, and other documents pertaining to the candidate for consideration by the congress or conference.”

in part eleven, the words “within fifteen calendar days” are replaced by the words “thirty days”;

in the part fifteen:

paragraph three shall be amended to read as follows:

“The Ethics Council shall provide the Selection Commission with a conclusion regarding each candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, a list of candidates recommended for appointment as members of the High Council of Justice, as well as copies of all documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council regarding the recommended candidates. The list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice for which the selection has been announced.”

after paragraph three new paragraphs four, five shall be added to read as follows:

“If a selection is held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates per vacant post, the selection commission may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant post.

If a selection is held for one vacant post of a member of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional

ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates, the selection commission shall announce a new selection for that vacant post.”

new part twenty-one shall be added to read as follows:

“21. Within five days of the Ethics Council’s submission of the documents and information specified in the first paragraph of part eight or the third paragraph of part fifteen of this Article, the Ethics Council shall transfer to the relevant body responsible for the appointment (election) of members of the High Council of Justice all documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council during the check of all candidates”;

In Article 9¹:

in the second paragraph of paragraph 2 of part fourteen, the word “candidacies” is replaced by the word “candidates”, and after the words “High Council of Justice” are supplemented by the words “for which the selection has been announced.”;

in part fifteen, the words “the appointing (electing) authority of the need to hold a new selection” shall be replaced by the words “of such circumstances the appointing (electing) authority”;

in Article 14:

in part one, the words “no later than two months before the expiration of the term for which a member of the High Council of Justice was elected (appointed)” shall be replaced by the words “within three months from the date on which the body convening the relevant congress or conference receives the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity”;

new parts two and three shall be added to read as follows:

“2. The body convening the relevant convention or conference shall notify the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice of the date and venue no later than thirty calendar days in advance.

3. No later than the next working day after receiving notification of the date and venue of the respective congress or conference, the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall publish an announcement on its official website specifying the date and venue of the congress or conference.”;

2) in the Law of Ukraine “On the Regulations of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine” (Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2010, No. 14-15, No. 16-17, Art. 133, as amended):

In Article 208¹:

part two shall be added with new paragraph two to read as follows:

“A selection to fill the post of member of the High Council of Justice may be announced and conducted for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice if there is more than one such vacancy post.”;

in part three:

the number “25” shall be replaced by the number “30”, and the words “from individuals applying to participate in the selection” are replaced by the word “candidates”;

paragraph two shall be amended to read as follows:

“Candidates shall submit their documents in paper form in person or by mail.”;

new paragraphs three, four shall be added to read as follows:

“The acceptance of documents submitted in person ends at the close of working hours of the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada. The Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada may not refuse to accept documents on grounds other than the expiration of the specified deadline.

The Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada shall complete the acceptance of documents submitted by mail on the fifth day following the expiration of the deadline for accepting such documents, as provided for in the first paragraph of this section.” ;

in part four:

in paragraph one, the words “by individuals applying to participate in the selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice and decides whether the documents meet the requirements” shall be replaced by the words “candidates for the post of member of the High Council of Justice and, based on those documents, decides whether the candidates meet or do not meet the requirements”;

after paragraph one new paragraphs two, three shall be added to read as follows:

“Errors and inaccuracies found in the documents submitted by a candidate, provided that their presence does not prevent an understanding of the content of the information provided, do not indicate that such candidates do not meet the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice.”

The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, may request that candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice provide, within 10 working days, explanations regarding the submitted documents if their content is contradictory, as well as submit corrected documents if they contain errors or inaccuracies. If explanations are not provided or the relevant documents are not corrected within the specified time limit, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, shall, depending on the nature and content of such documents, decide whether the candidate meets or does not meet the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice.”;

in this regard, paragraph two shall be considered paragraph four;

in the second paragraph, the words “Candidates applying to participate in the selection” and the word “individuals” shall be replaced by the word “candidates”;

new paragraph five shall be added to read as follows:

“If the number of candidates admitted to the selection is less than two per vacant post, a new selection will be announced for that vacant post.”;

in part five:

paragraphs two, three shall be amended to read as follows:

“The Ethics Council provides the Verkhovna Rada with an opinion on each candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, a list of candidates recommended for election as members of the High Council of Justice, as well as copies of all

documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council regarding the recommended candidates. The list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice for which the selection has been announced.

If a selection is held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates per one vacant post, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant post.”;

new paragraph five shall be added to read as follows:

“If a selection is held for one vacant post of a member of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, shall announce a new selection for such a vacant post.”

in part eight:

in the first paragraph, the words “the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council for election to the post of member of the High Council of Justice,” shall be replaced by the words “, the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council, and other documents from the Ethics Council,”, the words “shall conduct a preliminary discussion” shall be replaced by the words “shall conduct interviews with the candidates”, and the words “for election as members of the High Council of Justice” are replaced by the words “in order to assess their professional competence.”;

in paragraph two, the words “preliminary discussion” shall be replaced by the word “interviews”;

in paragraph three, the words “and the documents submitted by the candidate” shall be replaced by the words “and other documents pertaining to the candidate”.

3. To recommend the High Council of Justice to bring its regulatory legal acts into line with this Law.

4. To recommend that the High Qualification Commission of Ukraine bring its regulatory legal acts into line with this Law.

**Chairman
of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**

II. EXPLANATORY NOTE

Explanatory note to the draft Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges’ and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice”

1. Purpose

The purpose of the draft Law is to improve the procedure for holding a selection for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice, as well as to involve international experts in the selection procedures in accordance with Ukraine's international obligations.

2. Justification for the adoption of the Act

On 5 August 2021 the Law of Ukraine of 13 July 2021 No. 1629-IX “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On the Judicial System and Status of Judges” and certain other laws of Ukraine on the restoration of the work of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine” entered into force, which provided for the restoration of the work of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine by forming a Selection Commission with the participation of international experts to hold a selection for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

Thus, the above-mentioned Law provided that the first composition of the Selection Commission is formed of three persons from among judges or retired judges, proposed by the Council of Judges of Ukraine, and three persons proposed by international and foreign organisations which, in accordance with international or interstate agreements, have been providing Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or prevention and combating corruption over the last five years. Such international and foreign organisations shall agree on a proposal for a joint list of candidates.

The term of office of the Selection Commission and its members appointed by the High Council of Justice in the first composition shall expire two years after the appointment of the authorized composition of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

The draft Law proposes to preserve the possibility of temporary involvement of international experts in the second composition of the Selection Commission for the selection of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. This approach is in line with the recommendations of the European Commission «For Democracy through Law» (Venice Commission) set out in the Joint Urgent Opinion CDL-AD (2021)018, according to which the participation of international experts in the procedures for the formation of judicial governance bodies is an exceptional and temporary mechanism aimed at ensuring independence, integrity and restoration of trust in the judiciary. At the same time, the draft Law improves the procedural mechanisms of the Selection Commission, taking into account the practical experience gained during the previous selection.

On 17 September 2021, the High Council of Justice appointed the first composition of the Selection Commission, which selected members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

The selection for the positions of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine was held by the Selection Commission, as a result of which the competent composition of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine was formed on 1 June 2023.

According to the provisions of the Law of Ukraine “On the Judicial System and Status of Judges” (hereinafter the Law), the term of office of 15 out of 16 members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine expires in June 2027.

The effective functioning of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine is one of the key prerequisites for the formation of a highly professional judiciary and ensuring the independence of the judiciary.

Clauses 6.1 and 6.2 of the Action Plan in the field of the rule of law, which are defined by Ukraine and the EU as priorities for implementation in 2026 (hereinafter the Action Plan), provide for the task of determining the modalities for expanding the involvement of international experts in the Selection Commission for the selection of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine with the involvement of the High Council of Justice (with its consent) and the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine (with its consent) in cooperation with the European Commission, as well as the development of a relevant draft law.

In addition, the European Commission recommendations (Interim Benchmarks) to Chapter 23 of Cluster 1 “Fundamentals” refer to further strengthening the structural independence, integrity and accountability at all levels of the judiciary, including by urgently expanding the composition of the commission for the selection of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine with the involvement of independent experts proposed by international partners.

Also, step 3.16 of the Ukraine Facility Plan, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution No. 244-r of 18 March 2024 (as amended by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution No. 567-r of 10 June 2026), provides for the entry into force of legislation that expands the participation of independent experts appointed by international partners in the process of selecting members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

In addition, there is a need to improve certain selection procedures for the position of a member of the High Council of Justice, in particular in the areas of announcing the selection, verifying the compliance of candidates with the requirements of the law, conducting a special check, as well as conducting repeated selections, which will contribute to increasing the legal certainty of selection procedures and ensuring the timely formation of the composition of the High Council of Justice.

In order to improve the efficiency of selection procedures for positions of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and the High Council of Justice, as well as to fulfill international obligations, it was necessary to improve the relevant legislative regulation.

3. Main provisions of the draft act

The draft Law proposes to amend the Law of Ukraine “On the Judicial System and Status of Judges” by providing for:

- the procedure for forming the second composition of the Selection Commission with the participation of international experts proposed by international and foreign organizations that provide Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or corruption prevention;

- stages of the selection for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine;

- the powers of the Selection Commission in determining the compliance of candidates for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine with the criterion of integrity and professional competence;

- conducting a selection for all vacant positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine at the same time in the event of more than one such vacant position;

- the powers of the High Council of Justice to announce a new selection for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine if the number of candidates recommended by the Selection Commission is less than two for one vacant position;

establishing the condition that there should be at least two candidates from among judges or retired judges for one vacant position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine from among judges or retired judges.

In addition, the draft Law proposes to amend the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice”, which provides for the improvement of selection procedures for the formation of the High Council of Justice.

Thus, the draft Law proposes to transfer from the High Council of Justice to the body convening the relevant congress or conference the powers to accept documents from candidates and to determine the compliance of candidates with the requirements established by law, as well as to provide powers to the body convening the relevant congress or conference to announce a selection for the position of a member of the High Council of Justice, and to conduct an interview with candidates recommended by the Ethics Council to determine their professional competence.

In addition, it is proposed to regulate the issue of holding a selection for all vacant positions of a member of the High Council of Judges at the same time if there is more than one such vacant position.

The draft Law also provides for amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On the Regulations of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine” aimed at bringing the procedure for the election by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of members of the High Council of Justice into line with the proposed amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice”, including as regards the procedure for conducting a selection, admission of candidates, interaction with the Ethics Council and conducting a special check.

4. Legal aspects

Regulatory acts in this area of legal regulation are the laws of Ukraine “On the Judicial System and Status of Judges”, “On the High Council of Justice” and “On the High Council of Justice”.

5. Financial and economic justification

The implementation of the draft Law will not require additional expenditures from the state and local budgets.

6. Position of interested parties

The draft Law does not require public consultation.

The draft Law does not concern scientific and scientific-technical activities.

7. Conformity assessment

The draft Law is aimed at implementing clauses 6.1 and 6.2 of the Action Plan in the field of the rule of law, which are defined by Ukraine and the EU as priorities for implementation in 2026; recommendations of the European Commission (Interim Benchmarks) to chapter 23 of Cluster 1 “Fundamentals”; step 3.16 of the Ukraine Facility Plan, approved by Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution of 18 March 2024 No. 244-r (as amended).

The draft Law does not concern rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

The provisions of the draft Law do not affect the provision of equal rights and opportunities for women and men, do not contain risks of committing corruption offences and offences related to corruption, and do not create grounds for discrimination.

The draft Law will be sent to the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption to determine the need for anti-corruption expertise.

8. Forecast of results

Adoption of the draft Law will contribute to increasing the efficiency of competitive procedures, ensuring the timely formation of the composition of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and the High Council of Justice.

The draft Law is not a regulatory act.

The implementation of the draft Law will not affect the market environment, the protection of the rights and interests of business entities; the development of regions, the increase or decrease in the capacity of territorial communities; the labor market, the level of employment of the population; public health, the improvement or deterioration of the health of the population or its individual groups; ecology and the natural environment, the volume of natural resources, the level of air, water and land pollution, including pollution by generated waste.

The implementation of the draft Law will have an impact on the interests of stakeholders.

Stakeholders	Impact of the implementation of the act on the of stakeholders	Explanation expected impact
High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine	Ensuring the formation of the composition of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine with the participation of international experts.	Promote the effective functioning of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.
High Council of Justice	Improving the procedure for organizing and conducting selection procedures for the position of a member of the High Council of Justice, clarifying the powers of the subjects of selection procedures.	Ensure the timely conduct of the selection for the position of a member of the High Council of Justice and the delimitation of powers between the subjects of the selection procedures.

III. COMPARATIVE TABLE

Comparative Table to the draft Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges’ and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice”

Content of the provision of the legislative act	Content of the relevant provision of the draft Law
Law of Ukraine “On the Judicial System and Status of Judges”	
Article 95. Procedure for conducting the selection and appointing a members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine ...	Article 95. Procedure for conducting the selection and appointing a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine ...
5. The Selection Commission shall conduct the selection of candidates for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence, with at least two candidates for each vacant position on the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. ...	5. A selection for the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine may be announced and held for all vacant posts of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine if there is more than one such vacant post.
9. The announcement regarding the start of the selection, its terms and conditions, and the timeline for its conduct shall be published in the newspaper “Holos Ukrainy” and posted by the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice on the official website of the High Council of Justice no later than three months before the expiration of the term of office of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, or no later than ten days from the date of early termination of the term of office or dismissal of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. ...	9. The High Council of Justice shall announce the start of the selection no later than three months before the expiration of the term of office of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, or no later than ten days from the date of early termination of the term of office or dismissal of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. The announcement regarding the start of the selection, as well as its conditions and timetable, shall be published by the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice on the official website of the High Council of Justice.

15. The Selection Commission shall compile a list of candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, that shall be published on the official website of the High Council of Justice no later than three days after the expiry of the document submission period. 16. The Selection Commission shall verify the documents submitted by candidates for compliance with the requirements of this Law and shall publish on the official website of the High Council of Justice a list of candidates admitted to participate in the selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. 17. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall ensure that a special background check is carried out on candidates prior to the first stage of the selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and that the results of such a check are provided to the Selection Commission.	15. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall compile lists of candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, which shall be published on the official website of the High Council of Justice no later than three days after the expiry of the document submission period. 16. The selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure laid down in this Law and shall comprise the following stages: 1) admission to the selection based on the results of determining whether the candidate and the documents submitted by the candidate meet the requirements established by this Law; 2) the conduct of the special background check and the determination by the Selection Commission of the candidates' compliance with the integrity criterion on the basis of the consideration of the documents submitted by them, the results of the special vetting, and the relevant information from open sources; 3) the Selection Commission's determination of whether candidates meet the professional competence criterion and the identification of a list of candidates to be recommended to the High Council of Justice 17. The High Council of Justice reviews the documents submitted by the candidates and shall adopt a reasoned decision regarding the compliance of the documents with the requirements established by this Law. Candidates regarding whom the High Council of Justice has determined, based on the submitted documents, that they do not meet the requirements established by this Law, or candidates who have not submitted all the necessary documents, are disqualified from the selection. The High Council of Justice shall publish on its official website a list of candidates admitted to the selection for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.
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18. The Selection Commission shall conduct the selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine in two stages: 1) the selection of candidates based on the results of the examination of the documents they have submitted, the results of the special background check, relevant information from publicly available sources, and the compilation of a list of candidates admitted to the interview. The review of documents submitted by a candidate to assess their compliance with the requirements for the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the Selection Commission; 2) conducting interviews with the selected candidates and determining the list of candidates to be recommended to the High Council of Justice. Interviews with candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine are broadcast in real time on the official website of the High Council of Justice. The Selection Commission recommends to the High Council of Justice candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, with at least two candidates for each vacant position. Part missing.	If the number of candidates admitted to the selection is less than two per vacant position, a new selection shall be announced for such a vacant position. 18. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall ensure that a special background check is carried out in respect of candidates for the posts of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On the Prevention of Corruption”. 19. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice provides the Selection Commission with the results of the special background check on the candidate, as well as the documents of the candidates for membership on the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine who have been admitted to participate in the selection. 20. The Selection Commission shall examine the documents submitted by the candidate, the results of the special background check
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Part missing.	and the relevant information from publicly available sources in accordance with the procedure established by the Selection Commission. Where there are reasonable doubts as to whether a candidate meets the integrity criterion, the Selection Commission shall conduct an interview with that candidate or request a written explanation from them. Based on the results of the assessment of candidates' compliance with the integrity criterion, the Selection Commission adopts a reasoned decision on whether to admit or exclude a candidate from the next stage of the selection for the position of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. At the request of a candidate for the position of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, the Selection Commission shall provide the candidate with the decision regarding the candidate's exclusion from the next stage of the selection for the position of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.
Part missing.	21. In order to determine whether candidates meet the professional competence criterion, the Selection Commission conducts interviews with the candidates. 22. The live broadcast of the interviews with candidates for the position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be carried out on the official website of the High Council of Justice. 23. Based on the results of the assessment of candidates' compliance with the criterion of professional competence, the Selection Commission adopts a reasoned decision regarding the recommendation for appointment to the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. At the request of a candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, the Selection Commission shall explain to the candidate the reasons for not recommending him or her for the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. 24. Based on the results of the selection, the Selection Commission determines the list of candidates for the post of member of the High

19. If the number of candidates selected by the Selection Commission for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence is less than the number of candidates provided for in paragraph eighteen of this Article, the Selection Commission shall announce an additional selection in accordance with paragraph nine of this Article and conduct it in the manner provided for in this Article. 20. The Selection Commission shall conduct a selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine based on the criteria of integrity and professional competence. 21. A candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be deemed to meet the criterion of integrity if they are independent, honest, impartial, acting with integrity, conscientious, adhere to ethical standards and demonstrate impeccable conduct in their professional activities and personal life, and if there are no doubts regarding the legality of the sources of their assets, the consistency of the candidate's or their family members' standard of living with their declared income, or the consistency of the candidate's lifestyle with their status.	Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine to be recommended to the High Council of Justice. The Selection Commission recommends to the High Council of Justice candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine at a ratio of at least than two candidates per vacant position (including at least two candidates from among judges or retired judges for each vacant position of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine from among judges or retired judges). 25. If a selection is held to fill all vacant posts of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, but the list of candidates recommended by the Selection Commission who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence contains less than two candidates per one vacant position, the High Council of Justice may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant position. If a selection is held to fill a one vacant post on the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, but the list of candidates recommended by the Selection Commission who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence contains less than two candidates, the High Council of Justice shall announce a new selection for that vacant post. 26. The Selection Commission shall conduct a selection for the post of member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine based on the criteria of integrity and professional competence. 27. A candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be deemed to meet the criterion of integrity if they are independent, honest, impartial, acting with integrity, conscientious, adhere to ethical standards and demonstrate impeccable conduct in their professional activities and personal life, and if there are no doubts regarding the legality of the sources of their assets, the consistency of the candidate's or their family members' standard of living with their declared income, or the consistency of the candidate's lifestyle with their status.
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22. A candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be deemed to meet the criterion of professional competence if they possess knowledge in the field of law, including regarding the functioning of the judicial system, have analytical skills, the capacity to work diligently, possess oral and written communication skills, and the ability to interact with colleagues. 23. The Selection Commission shall apply the specified indicators in the following manner to assess a candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine for compliance with the criteria of integrity and professional competence: 1) the assessment of compliance with the indicators is based on information without any time or territorial restrictions; 2) a candidate does not meet the criteria if non-compliance is proven or if there are reasonable doubts as to the candidate's compliance; 3) any conclusion or assessment by a national or international body regarding the integrity and professional competence of a candidate shall not be determinative or binding on the Selection Commission. Part missing.	28. A candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall be deemed to meet the criterion of professional competence if they possess knowledge in the field of law, including regarding the functioning of the judicial system, have analytical skills, the capacity to work diligently, possess oral and written communication skills, and the ability to interact with colleagues. 29. The Selection Commission shall apply the specified indicators in the following manner to assess a candidate for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine for compliance with the criteria of integrity and professional competence: 1) the assessment of compliance with the indicators is based on information without any time or territorial restrictions; 2) a candidate does not meet the criteria if non-compliance is proven or if there are reasonable doubts as to the candidate's compliance; 3) any conclusion or assessment by a national or international body regarding the integrity and professional competence of a candidate shall not be determinative or binding on the Selection Commission. 30. The Selection Commission shall, within five days of submitting the list of recommended candidates to the High Council of Justice, forward to the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice for safekeeping all documents and information received and/or collected by the Selection Commission during the selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.
Article 95¹ . The Selection Commission ... 18. Powers of the Selection Commission: ... 3) selecting candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine who, based on the results of the examination of the submitted documents, meet the requirements of this Law;	Article 95¹ . The Selection Commission ... 18. Powers of the Selection Commission: ... 3) conducting a selection for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine based on criteria of integrity and professional competence, including the review of submitted documents, the results of a special background check, and relevant information from open sources; Delete the paragraph.

4) publishing on the official website of the High Council of Justice information about candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine who have been admitted to participate in the selection; 5) compiling a list of candidates for interview based on the results of the examination of the documents submitted by the candidates, the results of a special background check and the analysis of relevant information from publicly available sources; 6) conducting interviews with the selected candidates at its meeting; 7) selecting, by open vote from among the candidates who have passed the interview, at least two candidates for each vacant post who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence.	4) determining whether candidates meet the integrity criterion, including conducting interviews or requesting written explanations from candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine regarding whom there are reasonable doubts as to their compliance with the integrity criterion; 5) determining whether candidates meet the professional competence criteria, including conducting interviews with the selected candidates at its meeting 6) providing the High Council of Justice with recommendations regarding candidates for the post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, with at least two candidates who meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence for each vacant post (including at least two candidates from among judges or retired judges for each vacant post of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine from among judges or retired judges).
Section XII FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS	Section XII FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS
Paragraph missing	50¹. The announcement of the commencement of the second selection for the post of member of the Selection Commission, the conditions and timetable for its conduct shall be published in the newspaper “Holos Ukrainy” and shall be posted on the official website of the High Council of Justice within ten days of the entry into force of the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges’ and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice”. The second composition of the Selection Commission shall consist of three persons from among judges or retired judges proposed by the

	Council of Judges of Ukraine, and three persons, at least one of whom is a citizen of Ukraine, proposed by international and foreign organisations which, in accordance with international or intergovernmental agreements, have provided Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or the prevention and combating of corruption over the last five years. Such international and foreign organisations shall jointly agree upon and submit a list. The list of international and foreign organisations which, in accordance with international or intergovernmental agreements, have provided Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or the prevention and combating of corruption over the past five years, shall be drawn up by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and sent to the High Council of Justice within five days of the entry into force of the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges’ and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice ”. The Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in their stead shall request the bodies responsible for forming the Selection Commission to submit nominations for its membership no later than the next working day following receipt of the list of international and foreign organisations. Candidates for the post of a member of the Selection Commission may be persons who have an impeccable professional reputation, public standing and meet the criteria of integrity and professional competence. The body responsible for forming the Selection Commission shall submit to the High Council of Justice a list of candidates for membership of the Selection Commission within thirty days of receiving the relevant request from the Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in their stead. Lists of candidates for membership of the Selection Commission, submitted by the bodies responsible for its formation, shall be published
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	on the official website of the High Council of Justice and the official web portal of the judiciary of Ukraine. In the event that international and/or foreign organisations which, in accordance with international or intergovernmental agreements, have been providing Ukraine with international technical assistance in the field of judicial reform and/or the prevention and combating of corruption over the past five years, fail, within the time limit specified in the seventh subparagraph of this paragraph, to propose candidates for the Selection Commission or propose a number of candidates insufficient to form a quorum of the Selection Commission, candidates for the Selection Commission shall be proposed, within fifteen days of receiving the relevant notification from the High Council of Justice, by the Council of Prosecutors of Ukraine, the Bar Council of Ukraine, and the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine, represented by its Presidium, shall nominate candidates for membership of the Selection Commission. The Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in his stead shall appoint the members of the second composition of the Selection Commission no later than five days from the date of receipt of the lists of recommended candidates from all bodies responsible for forming the Selection Commission. If the Head of the High Council of Justice or the person acting in their stead fails to appoint the members of the Selection Commission within the specified time limit, the first three candidates from the list of the Council of Judges of Ukraine and the list of international and foreign organisations shall be deemed appointed. The second composition of the Selection Commission shall commence its work, provided that at least four members of the Selection Commission have been appointed, two of whom are nominated by international and foreign organisations, in accordance with the procedure laid down in this Law. At the request of a member of the second composition of the Selection Commission, the Commission may engage interpreters to provide organisational and technical support for the exercise of that member's
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	powers. The activities of such interpreters may be funded with the assistance of international technical aid. The term of office of the Selection Commission and its members, appointed by the High Council of Justice in the composition specified in the second subparagraph of this paragraph, shall be two years from the date of appointment. The Selection Commission, in the composition specified in the second subparagraph of this paragraph, shall, during the term of its powers, conduct a selection to fill vacant posts of members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. A decision by the second composition of the Selection Commission regarding a candidate's compliance with the integrity criterion is adopted if it is voted for by at least four members of the Selection Commission, two of whom are nominated by international and foreign organizations. In the event of a tie between "for" and "against" votes, the votes of three members of the Selection Commission—two of whom are nominated by international and foreign organizations—shall be decisive. A decision by the second composition of the Selection Commission regarding a candidate's compliance with the criterion of professional competence is adopted if it is voted for by at least four members of the Selection Commission, at least one of whom was nominated by international and foreign organizations. The next composition of the Selection Commission shall be formed in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 95¹ of this Law.
Paragraph missing.	50². As of the date of entry into force of the Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine 'On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges' and certain other laws of Ukraine on improving the selection procedures for the positions of a member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine and a member of the High Council of Justice", the selection for vacant posts on the Selection Commission, announced by Decision No. 1543/0/15-25 of the High Council of Justice dated 22 July 2025, shall be deemed terminated.

Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice”

Article 9. Competitive Principles ~~for the Selection of Candidates for~~ Election (Appointment) of a Member of the High Council of Justice

1. **The selection of candidates** for membership on the High Council of Justice is based on criteria of professional competence, professional ethics, and integrity. For the election of a member of the High Council of Justice by the Congress of Judges of Ukraine, the Congress of Attorneys of Ukraine, the Congress of Representatives of Higher Legal Educational Institutions and Scientific Institutions, or the All-Ukrainian Conference of Prosecutors, the body **convening the respective congress or conference shall, no later than forty-five calendar days in advance, notify the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice of the date and venue of the event.**

Paragraph is missing.

2. No later than the next working day after receiving notification of the date and venue of the respective congress or conference, the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall publish an announcement on its official website stating:

1) the date and venue of the congress or conference;
2) information regarding the commencement of the acceptance of applications for the selection for posts of members of the High Council of Justice.

3. A candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice shall personally submit the documents specified in part 1 of Article 8 of this Law **to the High Council of Justice or send them electronically no later**

Article 9. Competitive Principles for the Election (Appointment) of a Member of the High Council of Justice

1. **The selection for the post** of a member of the High Council of Justice is conducted based on the criteria of professional competence, professional ethics, and integrity.

For the election of a member of the High Council of Justice by the Congress of Judges of Ukraine, the Congress of Attorneys of Ukraine, the Congress of Representatives of Higher Legal Educational Institutions and Scientific Institutions, or the All-Ukrainian Conference of Prosecutors, the body **convening the relevant congress or conference shall, no later than six months before the expiration of a member’s term of office on the High Council of Justice or within 14 days of the date of the member’s early termination of office, shall adopt a decision to announce a selection for the position of a member of the High Council of Justice and shall notify the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice thereof.**

A selection for the posts of a member of the High Council of Justice may be announced and held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice if there is more than one such vacant post.

2. No later than the next working day after receiving the decision to announce a selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall publish on its official website an announcement regarding the selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice.

3. A candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice shall personally submit the documents specified in part 1 of Article 8 of this Law **to the body convening the relevant congress or conference, or shall send them by mail or electronic communication within 30 days from the date**

than thirty calendar days before the date of the respective congress or conference.

4. **The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice** shall accept and register the documents of candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice in the chronological order in which applications are received and, no later than the next working day, publishes **on the official website of the High Council of Justice**, along with copies of the submitted documents, except for the documents specified in paragraphs 4, 8, and 9 of part one of Article 8 of this Law.

5. The acceptance of documents from candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice ends at 24:00 on the last day of the deadline specified in paragraph three of this Article, if the documents are submitted electronically, or at the close of working hours of **the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice on the last day specified in paragraph three of this Article**. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice may not refuse to accept documents on grounds other than the expiration of the specified deadline.

Paragraph missing.

6. No later than the next working day after the deadline for submitting documents, the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall compile lists of candidates for posts of members of the High Council of Justice, which shall be published without delay on the official website of the High Council of Justice and sent to the body convening the relevant congress or conference, and shall also be published in the newspaper "Holos Ukrainy".

of publication of the announcement of the selection for the post of member of the High Council of Justice.

4. **The body that convenes the relevant congress or conference** shall accept and register the documents of candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice in the chronological order in which applications are received and, no later than the next working day, shall publish **on its official website** information about the candidate for the post of member of the High Council of Justice, together with copies of the submitted documents, except for the documents specified in paragraphs 4, 8, 9 of part one of Article 8 of this Law.

5. The acceptance of documents from candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice ends at midnight on the last day of the deadline specified in paragraph three of this Article, if the documents are submitted electronically, or at the close of working hours of **the body convening the relevant congress or conference, if the documents are submitted in person**. The body convening the relevant congress or conference may not refuse to accept documents on grounds other than the expiration of the specified deadline.

The acceptance of documents submitted by mail ends on the fifth day following the expiration of the deadline for accepting such documents, as provided for in paragraph three of this Article.

6. The body that convenes the relevant congress or conference shall review the documents of candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, as specified in paragraph one of Article 8 of this Law, and, based on those documents, shall decide whether such candidates meet the requirements established by this Law.

Candidates regarding whom the body convening the relevant congress or conference, based on the submitted documents, has determined do not meet the requirements established by this Law, or candidates who have not submitted all the necessary documents, shall be disqualified from the selection.

7. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall ensure that a special background check is conducted on candidates for posts as members of the High Council of Justice in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Preventing Corruption.” The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall submit to the body convening the relevant congress or conference, as well as to the Ethics Council, a report on the results of the special background check of a candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, as well as a report on the candidate’s and their documents’ compliance with the requirements established by this Law. 8. No later than the next working day after the deadline for submitting documents, the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall send copies of the documents submitted by candidates for posts on the High Council of Justice to the Ethics Council to determine whether the candidates meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity. The Ethics Council provides the body convening the relevant congress or conference with an opinion on each candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, as well as a list of candidates recommended for election to the post of member of the High Council of Justice. Such a list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts on the High Council of Justice.	If the number of candidates admitted to the selection is less than two per one vacant post, a new selection shall be announced for such a vacant post. 7. The body convening the relevant congress or conference shall, no later than the next working day after a decision is made regarding a candidate’s compliance with the requirements established by this Law for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, submit the candidate’s documents to the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice for the purpose of conducting a special background check in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Preventing Corruption,” as well as copies of such documents to the Ethics Council, to determine the candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity and to provide a list of candidates recommended for election to the post of member of the High Council of Justice. The Secretariat of the High Council of Justice ensures that a special vetting is conducted regarding candidates for the posts of members of the High Council of Justice in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Preventing Corruption” and submits to the body convening the relevant congress or conference, and to the Ethics Council, a conclusion on the results of the special vetting of a candidate for the position of member of the High Council of Justice. 8. The Ethics Council provides the body convening the relevant convention or conference with an opinion on each candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, a list of candidates recommended for election to the High Council of Justice, as well as copies of all documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council regarding the recommended candidates. The list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts on the High Council of Justice for which the selection has been announced. If a selection is held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates per vacant post, the body convening
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If the number of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity is fewer than the number of candidates specified in the second paragraph of this section, a new selection shall be announced and conducted in accordance with the procedure provided for by this Law. 9. If, based on the results of a special check, information about a candidate is found that does not meet the requirements established by law for holding the post, and/or if the candidate is not included in the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council for election to the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, such candidate shall be disqualified from participating in the selection for the post of member of the High Council of Justice. Paragraph missing Paragraph is missing Paragraph is missing ... 11. A person seeking to participate in the selection shall submit the documents specified in part one of Article 8 of this Law within fifteen calendar days from the date the announcement is posted on the website of the Official Internet Representation of the President of Ukraine regarding the selection for the position of member of the High Council of Justice. ...	the relevant congress or conference may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant post. If a selection is held to fill a single vacant post on the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates, the body convening the relevant assembly or conference shall announce a new selection for that vacant post. 9. If, based on the results of a special check, information about a candidate is found that does not meet the requirements established by law for holding the post, and/or if the candidate is not included in the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council for election to the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, such candidate shall be disqualified from participating in the selection for the post of member of the High Council of Justice. The body convening the relevant congress or conference conducts an interview with a candidate who has passed a special check and has been included on the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council, in order to assess the candidate's professional competence. Based on the results of the interview, the body convening the relevant congress or conference shall make a decision regarding each candidate for the post of member of the High Council of Justice. The body convening the relevant congress or conference submits its decision regarding each candidate, a report on the results of the special check, the Ethics Council's opinion, and other documents pertaining to the candidate for consideration by the congress or conference. ... 11. A person seeking to participate in the selection shall submit the documents specified in part one of Article 8 of this Law within thirty days from the date the announcement is posted on the website of the Official Internet Representation of the President of Ukraine regarding the selection for the position of member of the High Council of Justice. ...
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15. The organization of a special background check for candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, regarding whom the Selection Commission has determined that they meet the requirements established by this Law, shall be carried out in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Preventing Corruption."

The Selection Commission shall immediately forward copies of the documents of candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, as well as the conclusion on the results of the special background check of the candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, to the Ethics Council to determine the candidate's compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity for holding the post of a member of the High Council of Justice.

The Ethics Council shall provide the Selection Commission with a conclusion regarding each candidate's compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity for holding the position of a member of the High Council of Justice, as well as a list of candidates recommended for appointment to the post of a member of the High Council of Justice. Such a list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant positions for members of the High Council of Justice.

Missing paragraph.

Missing paragraph.

If, based on the results of a special background check, information about a candidate is found that does not meet the requirements established by law for

15. The organization of a special background check for candidates for the post of member of the High Council of Justice, regarding whom the Selection Commission has determined that they meet the requirements established by this Law, shall be carried out in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Preventing Corruption."

The Selection Commission shall immediately forward copies of the documents of candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, as well as the conclusion on the results of the special background check of the candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, to the Ethics Council to determine the candidate's compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity for holding the post of a member of the High Council of Justice.

The Ethics Council shall provide the Selection Commission with a conclusion regarding each candidate's compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, a list of candidates recommended for appointment as members of the High Council of Justice, as well as copies of all documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council regarding the recommended candidates. The list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice for which the selection has been announced.

If a selection is held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates per vacant post, the selection commission may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant post.

If a selection is held for one vacant post of a member of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates, the selection commission shall announce a new selection for that vacant post.

If, based on the results of a special background check, information about a candidate is found that does not meet the requirements established by law for

holding the position, and/or if the candidate is not included in the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council for appointment as a member of the High Council of Justice, such candidate shall be disqualified from the selection for the post of member of the High Council of Justice. Missing paragraph.	holding the post, and/or if the candidate is not included on the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council for appointment as a member of the High Council of Justice, such a candidate shall be disqualified from participating in the selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice. 21. Within five days of the Ethics Council's submission of the documents and information specified in the first paragraph of part eight or the third paragraph of part fifteen of this Article, the Ethics Council shall transfer to the relevant body responsible for the appointment (election) of members of the High Council of Justice all documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council during the check of all candidates.
Article 9¹. Ethics Council ... 14. The Ethics Council conducts the selection of candidates for post membership on the High Council of Justice in two stages: 1) screening candidates based on the review of documents submitted by the candidates, the results of a special background check, and relevant information from open sources, and compiling a list of candidates admitted to the interview stage; 2) conducting interviews with the selected candidates and determining a list of candidates to be recommended to the bodies that elect (appoint) members of the High Council of Justice. Such a list must contain a number of candidacies that is at least twice the number of vacant posts for members of the High Council of Justice. 15. If the number of candidates selected by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity for the posts of members of the High Council of Justice is fewer than the number of candidates specified in paragraph fourteen of this Article, the Ethics Council shall notify the appointing (electing) authority of the need to hold a new selection.	Article 9¹. Ethics Council ... 14. The Ethics Council conducts the selection of candidates for post membership on the High Council of Justice in two stages: 1) screening candidates based on the review of documents submitted by the candidates, the results of a special background check, and relevant information from open sources, and compiling a list of candidates admitted to the interview stage; 2) conducting interviews with the selected candidates and determining a list of candidates to be recommended to the bodies that elect (appoint) members of the High Council of Justice. Such a list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts for members of the High Council of Justice, for which the selection has been announced. 15. If the number of candidates selected by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity for the posts of members of the High Council of Justice is fewer than the number of candidates specified in paragraph fourteen of this article, the Ethics Council shall notify of such circumstances the appointing (electing) authority. ...

Article 14. Timelines for Convening Congresses and Conferences to Elect Members of the High Council of Justice 1. The Congress of Judges of Ukraine, the Congress of Attorneys of Ukraine, the All-Ukrainian Conference of Prosecutors, and the Congress of Representatives of Higher Legal Educational Institutions and Scientific Institutions, held for the purpose of electing members of the High Council of Justice, shall be convened no later than two months before the expiration of the term for which a member of the High Council of Justice was elected (appointed). Paragraph missing Paragraph missing	Article 14. Timelines for Convening Congresses and Conferences to Elect Members of the High Council of Justice 1. The Congress of Judges of Ukraine, the Congress of Attorneys of Ukraine, the All-Ukrainian Conference of Prosecutors, and the Congress of Representatives of Higher Legal Educational Institutions and Scientific Institutions, for the purpose of electing members of the High Council of Justice, shall be held within three months from the date on which the body convening the relevant congress or conference receives the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity. 2. The body convening the relevant convention or conference shall notify the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice of the date and venue no later than thirty calendar days in advance. 3. No later than the next working day after receiving notification of the date and venue of the respective congress or conference, the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice shall publish an announcement on its official website specifying the date and venue of the congress or conference.
Law of Ukraine “On the Regulations of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine”	
Article 208¹. Procedure for the Election and Dismissal of Members of the High Council of Justice ... 2. No later than six months before the expiration of a member's term of office on the High Council of Justice, or within 14 days of the early termination of that member's term, the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada, upon the recommendation of the committee whose purview includes matters of the judicial system, shall publish on the official website of the Verkhovna Rada an announcement regarding a selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice. Paragraph missing	Article 208¹. Procedure for the Election and Dismissal of Members of the High Council of Justice ... 2. No later than six months before the expiration of a member's term of office on the High Council of Justice, or within 14 days of the early termination of that member's term, the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada, upon the recommendation of the committee whose purview includes matters of the judicial system, shall publish on the official website of the Verkhovna Rada an announcement regarding a selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice. A selection to fill the post of member of the High Council of Justice may be announced and conducted for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice if there is more than one such vacancy post.

3. Within **25** days of the publication of the announcement of the selection, the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada shall accept from **individuals applying to participate in the selection** for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice the documents specified in part 1 of Article 8 of the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice” and shall register them in the order in which they are received. Information **about individuals applying to participate in the selection** for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, together with copies of the submitted documents—except for the documents specified in paragraphs 4, 8, 9 of part 1 of Article 8 of the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice,” shall be published on the official website of the Verkhovna Rada no later than the next working day.

The acceptance of documents ends at midnight on the last day of the deadline specified in the first paragraph of this part if the documents are submitted electronically, and at the end of the working hours of the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada if the documents are submitted in paper form. The Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada may not refuse to accept documents on grounds other than the expiration of the specified deadline.

Paragraph missing

Paragraph missing

4. The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related of the judicial system, reviews the documents submitted by **individuals applying to participate in the selection for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice and decides whether the documents meet the requirements** established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice.”

3. Within **30** days of the publication of the announcement of the selection, the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada shall accept from **candidates** for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice the documents specified in part 1 of Article 8 of the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice” and shall register them in the order in which they are received. Information **about candidates** for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, together with copies of the submitted documents—except for the documents specified in paragraphs 4, 8, 9 of Part 1 of Article 8 of the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice,” shall be published on the official website of the Verkhovna Rada no later than the next working day.

Candidates shall submit their documents in paper form in person or by mail.

The acceptance of documents submitted in person ends at the close of working hours of the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada. The Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada may not refuse to accept documents on grounds other than the expiration of the specified deadline.

The Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada shall complete the acceptance of documents submitted by mail on the fifth day following the expiration of the deadline for accepting such documents, as provided for in the first paragraph of this section.

4. The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, reviews the documents submitted by **candidates for the post of member of the High Council of Justice and, based on those documents, decides whether the candidates meet meet or do not meet the requirements** established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice.”

Paragraph missing Paragraph missing Candidates applying to participate in the selection for the post of member of the High Council of Justice, with respect to whom the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, based on the submitted documents, has determined that they do not meet the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice,” or individuals who have not submitted all the necessary documents, shall be disqualified from the selection. Paragraph missing 5. The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, shall, no later than the next working day after adopting a decision on the compliance of a candidate’s documents for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice with the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice,” forward such candidate’s documents to the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada to arrange for a special background check in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Preventing Corruption,” as well as copies of such documents to the Ethics	Errors and inaccuracies found in the documents submitted by a candidate, provided that their presence does not prevent an understanding of the content of the information provided, do not indicate that such candidates do not meet the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice.” The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, may request that candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice provide, within 10 working days, explanations regarding the submitted documents if their content is contradictory, as well as submit corrected documents if they contain errors or inaccuracies. If explanations are not provided or the relevant documents are not corrected within the specified time limit, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, shall, depending on the nature and content of such documents, decide whether the candidate meets or does not meet the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice.” Candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice regarding whom the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues of the judicial system, based on the documents submitted, has determined that they do not meet the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice,” or candidates who have not submitted all the necessary documents, shall be disqualified from the selection. If the number of candidates admitted to the selection is less than two per vacant post, a new selection will be announced for that vacant post. 5. The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, shall, no later than the next working day after adopting a decision on the compliance of a candidate’s documents for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice with the requirements established by the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice,” forward such candidate’s documents to the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada to arrange for a special background check in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On Preventing Corruption,” as well as copies of such documents to the Ethics Council, which operates in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On the High
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Council, which operates in accordance with the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice,” to determine the candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity and to provide a list of candidates recommended for election to the post of a member of the High Council of Justice.

The Ethics Council provides the Verkhovna Rada with an opinion on each candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, as well as a list of candidates recommended for election as members of the High Council of Justice. Such a list must contain at least twice as many candidates as there are vacant posts on the High Council of Justice.

If the number of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity is fewer than the number of candidates specified in the second paragraph of this section, a new selection shall be announced and conducted in accordance with the procedure set forth in this article and the Law of Ukraine “On the High Council of Justice.”

Paragraph missing

...

8. After receiving the report on the results of the special check of candidates for the post of member of the High Council of Justice **and the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council for election to the post of member of the High Council of Justice**, the Committee whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system **shall conduct a preliminary discussion** of the candidates who have passed the special check

Council of Justice,” to determine the candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity and to provide a list of candidates recommended for election to the post of a member of the High Council of Justice.

The Ethics Council provides the Verkhovna Rada with an opinion on each candidate’s compliance with the criteria of professional ethics and integrity, a list of candidates recommended for election as members of the High Council of Justice, as well as copies of all documents and information received and/or collected by the Ethics Council regarding the recommended candidates. The list must contain a number of candidates that is at least twice the number of vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice for which the selection has been announced.

If a selection is held for all vacant posts of members of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates per one vacant post, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, may, within 30 days of receiving the list, announce a new selection for such a vacant post.

If a selection is held for one vacant post of a member of the High Council of Justice, but the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council who meet the criteria of professional ethics and integrity contains fewer than two candidates, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, shall announce a new selection for such a vacant post.

...

8. After receiving a report on the results of the special background check of candidates for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, **the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council, and other documents from the Ethics Council**, the Committee whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system **shall conduct interviews with the candidates** who have passed the special check and are included in the list of candidates

and are included in the list of candidates recommended by the Ethics Council **for election as members of the High Council of Justice.**

Based on the results of the **preliminary discussion**, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, adopts a decision regarding each candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice.

The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues of the judicial system, submits to the Verkhovna Rada for consideration, with respect to each candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, the Committee's decision, a report on the results of the special background check, the opinion of the Ethics Council, **and the documents submitted by the candidate.**

recommended by the Ethics Council **in order to assess their professional competence.**

Based on the results of the **interviews**, the Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system makes a decision regarding each candidate for the post of member of the High Council of Justice.

The Committee, whose jurisdiction includes issues related to the judicial system, submits to the Verkhovna Rada for consideration, with respect to each candidate for the post of a member of the High Council of Justice, the Committee's decision, a report on the results of the special check, the Ethics Council's opinion, **and other documents pertaining to the candidate.**