#### **WORKING BODIES**

The National Assembly establishes working bodies to monitor the state of affairs in individual areas, to prepare policy decisions in such areas, to formulate positions on particular issues and to discuss draft laws and other acts of the National Assembly

Matters within the same field of work are generally dealt with by only one working body, known as the working body responsible. The President of the National Assembly determines which working body is responsible for a particular issue.

#### **COMMITTEES**

The National Assembly establishes standing committees, generally corresponding to the areas for which individual ministries are competent, or which cover several inter-related areas. Committees may also be established for specific tasks.

The National Assembly has the following committees in the 2008-2012 parliamentary term:

- The Committee on the Economy; Chair Vili Rezman, Phone 01 4789413
- The Committee on Transport: Chair Janko Veber. Phone 01 4789496
- The Committee on the Environment and Spatial Planning; predsednica Breda Pečan, Phone 01 4789473
- The Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Food; Chair Franc Bogovič, Phone 01 4789470
- The Committee on Finance and Monetary Policy; Chair mag. Anton Rop, Phone 01 4789478
- The Committee on Foreign Policy; podpredsednica Janja Klasinc, Phone 01 4789481
- The Committee on Domestic Policy, Public Administration and Justice; Chair dr. Vinko Gorenak, Phone 01 4789500
- The Committee on Local Self-Government and Regional Development; Chair Vili Trofenik, Phone 01 4789543
- The Committee on Defence; Chair Jožef Jerovšek, Phone 01 4789549
- The Committee on Health; Chair Ljubo Germič, Phone 01 4789507
- The Committee on Labour, the Family, Social Policy and Disability; predsednica Andreja Črnak Meglič, Phone 01 4789419
- The Committee on Culture, Education, Sport and Youth; Chair mag. Majda Potrata, Phone 01 4789503
- The Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technological Development; Chair mag. Branko Grims, Phone 01 4789411
- The Committee on EU Affairs; predsednica Darja Lavtižar Bebler, Phone 01 4789822

#### COMMISSIONS

The National Assembly establishes commissions to examine specific common issues or to examine individual matters. The National Assembly has the following standing commissions:

- The Commission for Public Office and Elections; Chair Dušan Kumer, Phone 01 4789490
- The Commission for the Rules of Procedure; Chair Anton Anderlič, Phone 01 478 9786
- The Commission for the National Communities; Chair László Göncz, Phone 01 4789668
- The Commission for Public Finance Control; Chair mag. Andrej Vizjak, Phone 01 4789643
- The Commission for the Supervision of Intelligence and Security Services; Chair Zvonko Černač, Phone 01 4789676.

The following commissions are also operating in the current term:

- The Constitutional Commission: Chair dr. Pavel Gantar. Phone 01 4789444
- The Commission for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities; predsednica Eva Irgl, Phone 01 4789626
- $\bullet \ \, \text{The Commission for Relations with Slovenes in Neighbouring and Other Countries; Chair \textit{Miro Petek}, Phone \textit{01 478 9922} } \\$
- The Commission established under the Prevention of Corruption Act; Chair Branko Marinič, Phone. 01 4789578
- Commission of Inquiry for determining the political responsibility of holders of public office responsible for preparing and performing the counting of »The Erased« in 2003 and 2009 with regard to the allegation that the officially published results were modified to accommodate the political needs of certain holders of public office; for determining the political responsibility for the inadequate implementation of paragraph 8 of Constitutional Court Decision No. U-I-246/02-28 (ZIOdIUS246/02) (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 135/03) in the period from the beginning of 2003 to October 2004 and in the period after 22 November 2008, the consequences of which include the creation of evident inequality before the law and jeopardising the public finance system; for investigating the alleged clientelism or corrupt conduct of certain state officials; and for investigating the alleged abuse of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia for political purposes in the period from the beginning of 2003 to October 2004 and in the period after 22 November 2008; Chair Robert Hrovat, Phone 01 478 9933
- Commission of Inquiry for determining the political responsibility of holders of public office with regard to the allegation that they have been involved in financing contentious management buyouts of the companies Istrabenz, holdinška družba, d.d. and Pivovarna Laško d.d. by mainly state-owned banks or credit institutions (credit institutions within NLB Group and NKBM d.d.), namely by abusing their political power to grant loans to members of the management bodies of the above companies and related legal and natural persons (so-called »shell« companies, financial holdings, etc.) for the purchase of a majority or predominant share of the company they have managed or still manage; and to determine the political responsibility of holders of public office with regard to the allegedly deficient or inadequate legislation on acquisitions facilitating the above contentious management buyouts; Chair Lojze Posedel, Phone 01 478 9933.

### LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE

Laws may be proposed by the Government, by any deputy, by the National Council or by at least 5,000 voters.

A draft law contains the title of the law, an introduction, the text of all articles and an explanation.

The introduction includes an evaluation of the state of affairs and reasons for adopting the law; the goals, principles and main solutions of the draft law; an estimation of the financial implications of the draft law for the state budget and other public finance resources; a statement that the resources for the implementation of the law are provided in the state budget if the draft law envisages the use of budgetary resources within a period for which the state budget has already been adopted; a presentation of similar regulation in other legal systems and of the harmonisation of the proposed regulation with the acquis communautaire (in at least three legal systems in EU Member States); and other consequences the adoption of the law might have.

Before submitting a draft law, the proposer of the law may propose that a preliminary reading be held regarding the basic issues and social relations that need to be regulated by such law. The preliminary reading is held in the working body appointed by the President of the National Assembly.

The (regular) legislative procedure comprises three stages, referred to as the first, the second and the third readings.

The first reading of a draft law begins when the draft law is forwarded to the deputies. Exceptionally, where so requested by at least ten deputies, the National Assembly holds a general debate at a plenary session to discuss the reasons proposed for adopting the law and the principles, goals and basic solutions of the draft law.

The second reading of a draft law is first held within the working body responsible and then, pursuant to the decisions of the responsible working body, at a session of the National Assembly. The working body responsible discusses and votes on amendments and individual articles of the draft law and prepares a report containing a supplemented draft law; the National Assembly discusses the individual articles of the supplemented draft law to which amendments have been tabled and votes on individual amendments.

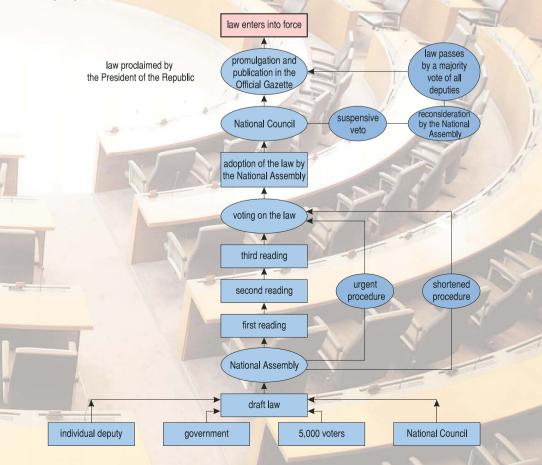
The third reading is held at a session of the National Assembly; the National Assembly discusses and votes on the amendments tabled and then on the draft law in its entirety. A law relating to the exercise of constitutionally provided rights and the status of national communities may be adopted only with the consent of the deputies of the national communities.

In the case of less demanding amendments to a law, the cessation of the validity of an individual law or individual provisions thereof, the less demanding harmonisation of a law with other laws or with the acquis communautaire, amendments to laws related to proceedings before or decisions of the Constitutional Court, the proposer of a law may propose that the law be adopted in a shortened procedure. In the shortened procedure no general debate is held and the second and third readings are held at the same session.

Where so required in the interest of state security or defence, or in order to rectify the consequences of natural disasters, or to prevent more serious threats to the functioning of the state, the Government may propose that a law be adopted in an urgent procedure. A decision thereon is taken by the Bureau. In the urgent procedure no general debate is held and the second and third readings are held at the same session.

The National Council may require the National Assembly to reconsider a law within seven days of its adoption and prior to its proclamation. In the event of such, a majority vote of all deputies is required for the adoption of the law, unless a larger majority is required by the Constitution for the adoption of the law. The new decision by the National Assembly is final.

Adopted laws are proclaimed by the President of the Republic within eight days following their adoption and enter into force upon publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia.



ssued: august 2009.

Open Doors days: every second Saturday of the month at 9, 10 and 11 a.m. Produced by: National Assembly, Public Relations Office, Edited by: Gordana Vrabec, Translated by: Mina Barlic Photo: Barbara Zajc, Marko Jamnik, Blaž Samec, Design: Studio DTS, Print layout: Multigraf d.o.o.,

Subliceva 4

1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia
Slovenia
Tel.: +386 1 478 9400
Faks: +386 1 478 9400
Faks: +386 1 478 9844
Internet: www.dz-rs.si
Guided fours of the National Assembl
Tel.: +386 1 478 9857
Faks: +386 1 478 9857
Faks: +386 1 478 9857

Vational Assembly



NYLIONYF YSZEMBFK BEBOBFIC OF SLOVENIA





# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



### **Dear Visitor!**

Welcome to the National Assembly - the Slovenian Parliament. The National Assembly is a democratically elected institution and exercises legislative power in the Republic of Slovenia. It is a platform for debate and political coordination as well as the representative of the people and a quardian of democracy

The National Assembly represents the interests of the citizens and we are therefore striving to bring it as close to you as possible and make it even more pleasant, accessible, and open. Our guides will be pleased to share with you the Parliament's history and organisation and take you on a tour of the parliamentary building.

I am confident that you will leave the premises of the National Assembly satisfied with many new impressions and enriched by the information on the work of your duly elected deputies. It is my sincere wish that by visiting this body you will sense both its unity and diversity, and feel democracy in all its glory!

A project entitled »The Harvest of Knowledge« has been launched in the present parliamentary term by the National Assembly and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology in order to present scientific achievements and the impacts thereof.

Research is an intellectual activity guided by human curiosity and the thirst for knowledge. Slovenia is a small country, yet it has qualified and respected scientists who significantly contribute to the world's treasure trove of knowledge. The future lies in the hands of a responsible, knowledge-based society since in the longterm research activities promote sustainable development and lead to a better and more fulfilling life. This is particularly true in these times of pan-European conjunctural measures intended to overcome the economic and financial crisis that has highlighted the numerous paradigmatic problems of modern society.

The doors of the National Assembly are therefore wide open to top Slovenian scientists in order for them present their research and achievements.

Presentations of scientific achievements and lectures under the project »The Harvest of Knowledge« are held during regular sessions of the National Assembly. Lectures start in the Large Hall at 9 a.m. and last for 30 minutes, followed by a 10-minute discussion with the audience. Lectures may be viewed from the balcony of the Large Hall and are broadcast live in their entirety on the third channel of the national television.

President of the National Assembly Pavel Gantar, PhD

# THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL

The President represents the National Assembly and presides over its work: the President calls and conducts the sessions, signs laws and other acts adopted by the National



Assembly, fosters relations with the National Council and cooperation with the President of the Republic, the Government, other state authorities, the representative bodies of other states, international parliamentary and other organisations, ensures the implementation of the Rules of Procedure, assigns issues for discussion in the working bodies of the National Assembly, rules on disputes over the jurisdiction between the working bodies, decides on deputies' official trips abroad where such decision is not

within the competence of the working bodies, and performs other tasks in accordance with the Constitution, law

### **VICE-PRESIDENTS** OF THE NATIONAL

**ASSEMBLY** 

The National Assembly has a maximum of three Vice-Presidents (one of whom is a member of the largest opposition deputy group) who assist the President in his work. If the President is absent he appoints a Vice-President to act as his substitute.

and the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.





### COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



















- The Social Democrats deputy group (SD 29 deputies; 10 female, 19 male),
- The Slovenian Democratic Party deputy group (SDS 27 deputies; 2 female, 25 male,
- The Democratic Party of Pensioners of Slovenia deputy group (DeSUS 7 male deputies),
- The Slovenian National Party deputy group (SNS 5 male deputies),
- The Liberal Democracy of Slovenia deputy club (LDS 5 male deputies),
- The Hungarian and Italian National Communities deputy group (NS 2 male deputies),
- Unaffiliated deputy (NeP 1 male deputy).

# **ASSEMBLY**

The National Assembly has a President elected by majority vote of all deputies.























• to adopt declarations, resolutions, ordinances, recommendations and decisions to order a parliamentary inquiry

- to call a referendum

to ratify treaties

- to decide on the impeachment of the President of the Republic, the President of the Government or ministers before the Constitutional Court
- to decide on the immunity of deputies, Constitutional Court judges, judges, the Ombudsman for human rights and his substitute
- to decide on the proclamation of war or a state of emergency
- to discuss EU affairs, take positions on the amendments to the Treaties establishing the European Union, and take positions on the political guidelines for the functioning of Slovenia within EU institutions in accordance with the Constitution, the law and the Rules of Procedure of the National

The National Assembly elects, appoints and dismisses:

- the President and Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly
- the Secretary General of the National Assembly
- the chairmen and deputy chairmen of working bodies of the National Assembly
- the President of the Government
- · Constitutional Court judges
- iudaes
- the Human Rights Ombudsman and Deputy Ombudsmen
- five members of the Judicial Council

- · other holders of public office where so provided by law

The National Assembly also performs other tasks within the scope of its powers as provided by the Constitution, laws, the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly and ordinances issued on the

### **SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The Secretary General heads the services of the National Assembly and performs other tasks provided by regulations, the Rules of Procedure and other acts of the National

On the basis of the Slovenian Constitution, the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia began to function after the

second democratic elections in 1992. The National Assembly was constituted at its first session on 23 December 1992

following the confirmation of the election of the deputies, the President and two Vice-Presidents (the National Assembly later also elected a third Vice-President). The most recent parliamentary elections, in which ninety deputies were elected

to the National Assembly, were held on 21 September 2008. Deputies are elected by universal, equal, direct and secret

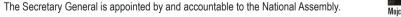
voting. They are the representatives of all the people and are not bound by any instructions. Unless interrupted by early or

special elections, deputies have a four-year term of office. Elections to the National Assembly are called by the President of the Republic. The National Assembly conducts its proceedings in Slovene. The two deputies representing the Italian and

Hungarian national communities have the right to speak, table motions, initiatives and questions and make other submissions

in Italian or Hungarian, respectively. Such matters are then translated into Slovene. The work of the National Assembly is open to the public unless otherwise determined by its Rules of Procedure. The National Assembly meets in regular and extraordinary sessions. Regular sessions are called during the regular annual terms of the National Assembly: during the spring term between 10 January and 15 July, and during the autumn term between 1 September and 20 December.

**ABOUT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY** 





























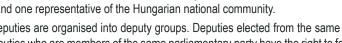






- ministers
- the governor of the central bank

basis of the Rules of Procedure.



National Assembly deputies are organised into deputy groups. Deputies elected from the same list of candidates and deputies who are members of the same parliamentary party have the right to form only one deputy group. Two or more deputy groups may join to form one deputy group. The deputies representing the Italian and Hungarian national communities together have the status

of a deputy group.

- During the 2008-2012 parliamentary term the deputies have formed eight deputy groups:
- The ZARES New Politics deputy group (ZARES 9 deputies; 1female, 8 male).
- The Slovenian People's Party deputy group (SLS 5 male deputies),

### **POWERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The National Assembly has the following powers: • to decide on and proclaim amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia

• to adopt laws, the state budget, the supplemented state budget, amendments to the state budget

The National Assembly is the highest representative and legislative body in the country.

• to adopt the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly

• to adopt authentic interpretations of laws and official consolidated texts of laws

- to pass a vote of confidence or no confidence in the Government

and the annual financial statement on the state budget

• to adopt the rules of procedure on parliamentary inquiry

- · the members of the Court of Audit

### The National Assembly is composed of 90 deputies, including one representative of the Italian national community and one representative of the Hungarian national community.

# **COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**