

ITALY

Key challenge: members of the Judicial Council were selected based on party affiliations, concerns about the influence of professional associations of magistrates on decision-making in the Council.

SLOVAKIA

Key challenge: lack of legal regulation of the dismissal of non-judge members of the Judicial Council creates the risk that they might be removed from office prematurely and arbitrarily.

POLAND

Key challenge: members of the Judicial Council are deemed to be representating and defending the political interests of the previously ruling coalition.

BULGARIA

Key challenge: new constitutional amendments changing the composition of the Judicial Council are disputed by other branches of power.

NORTH MACEDONIA

Key challenge: controversial dismissal of the current President of the Judicial Council which lead to questioned independence and integrity of the entire Council.

BELGIUM

Key challenge: the linguistic divide in the country has caused blockages in judicial appointments by the High Council of Justice.

NETHERLANDS

Key challenge: large influence of the executive branch, and of the Minister of Justice and Security in particular, in the appointment of the judge members of the Council for the Judiciary.

GERMANY

Key challenge: the influence of the government on the judiciary leads to the appointment of judges on top positions due to their connection to the big political parties.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Key challenge: lack of impartiality and judicial independence, the selection of judges is not transparent, there is favouritism and subjective decision making in the judiciary.





