**QUESTIONNAIRE**

1. Please provide detailed information, including disaggregated data, on the number of judges that have been subject to disciplinary proceedings in the last ten years. How many of them were found guilty of a disciplinary misconduct? How many of them were removed from office?
2. Has any judge belonging to your association been subjected to any form of sanctions that were not previously established by law or that were imposed through a procedure that did not meet the procedural requirements established by the law? If yes, please provide information on the case(s).
3. Apart from disciplinary proceedings, are there any other measures that may be used to interfere with the capacity of a judge to adjudicate cases before him or her in full independence? Are you aware of any case in which a judge has been promoted, transferred to another court, forced to take a training course, a vacation or medical leave, or coerced or pressured in similar ways in order to abandon a case pending before him or her? If yes, please provide information on the case(s).
4. What measures have been put in place in your country to enable judges to decide matters before them impartially and without any pressure or interference?

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Dear colleagues,

please find here the answers of the Czech Union of Judges, the only association of judges in Czechia.

1. In the last 10 years (from 1. 1. 2010 to 25. 2. 2020):

* all together 243 disciplinary proceedings against 172 judges
* 1 judge was subject to 6 proceedings
* 1 judge was subject to 5 proceedings
* 6 judges were subject to 4 proceedings
* 9 judges were subject to 3 proceedings
* 26 judges were subject to 2 proceedings
* 129 judges were subject to 1 proceeding
* there were 117 proceedings in which a judge was found guilty of a disciplinary misconduct (all together 95 judges were found guilty in these 117 proceedings)
* just 6 judges were removed from office and 2 other judges were found incapable to be a judge (it has the same effect as removal from office, but it is not a punishment).

1. NO
2. We have not any evidence or knowledge about the situations mentioned in third question. We believe, that in general Czech judges enjoy full independence. On the other hand we can not eliminate that such or similar incident could or can happen. For instance – there are no clear rules for promotion.
3. It is whole system of law provisions mentioned mostly in the Judicial Act. Great and really effective guarantor of judicial independence in the Czech Republic is Czech Constitutional Court.

Daniela Zemanová, president of Czech Union of Judges

Tomáš Novosad, deputy of Czech Union of Judges to International Association of Judges