# 20190226 Questionnaire of the Special Rapporteur

In the Slovak Republic, public space is defined by Article 2 (1) of Act No. 369/1990 Coll. on municipal establishment as amended. In the above Act, public space means street, square, park, market-place and other space accessible to the public without limitation, which regardless of ownership relations serves to general usage unless otherwise specified by a special act.

According to this Act No. 369/1990 Coll. on municipal establishment as amended, in particular Article 4 (3) (g), municipalities (including towns and boroughs) have the following duty:

*“g) they provide public services, in particular municipal waste and small construction waste management,*[*5c)*](http://www.zakonypreludi.sk/zz/1990-369#f1899358)*keeping the municipality clean, administration and maintenance of public green areas and street lighting, water supplies, waste water removal, sump waste water management and local public transport“.*

The Slovak Republic creates financial conditions focused on the provision of access to publicly controlled drinking water. Taking into account the above-mentioned, the duty must be fulfilled by the municipality (depending on the size, the town or borough) either directly by the municipality itself, if it owns a public water supply system, or through an authorised operator of a public water supply system, for example a water-supply company. The procedure is set up in Act No. 442/2002 Coll. on public water supply systems and public sewerage systems as amended. The decision on using the resources from payments for water supplied through the public water supply system and removed by public sewerage system is made by the owner of the public water supply system or public sewerage system.

The access to available controlled drinking water in public space, such as market-places, parks and streets, is given by the particular possibilities of municipalities and towns. Spaces such as railway and bus stations and airports do not mean public space in the Slovak legislation, i.e. the access to drinking water for users of the stations and airports is provided by their owner or operator. Subsequently, drinking water consumption in these spaces is invoiced to the owner of the railway or bus station or of the airport.

Currently, the Slovak Republic is executing the provision of access to publicly controlled drinking water for people from marginalised groups, who do not have any access to drinking water in their dwellings (shacks, simple dwellings). The access is provided mostly at points of water dispensing. The project is implemented in compliance with Act No. 355/2007 Coll. on public health protection, support and development and on the amendment to certain acts as amended.