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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**

**COMPOSITION OF CONSTITUTIONAL COURTS**

**SYNOPTIC TABLES**

**ALBANIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nine.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Five are elected by the parliament and four are appointed by the President of the Republic (Article 18 of the constitutional law).
TERM OF OFFICE:	Three members, whose names are drawn by lot, retire from office three years after appointment: three others retire three years later. The remaining members remain in office for twelve years; they are not re-eligible.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Eminent, highly qualified lawyers of high moral standing, who have worked in the judiciary or as professors at the Faculty of Law for more than 10 years (Article 20).
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Constitutional Court judges may not be members of parliament, members of the Council of Ministers, ordinary judges, public prosecutors, members of a party or other political or trade union organisation. They may not engage in public or private activities which might be detrimental to their independence or impartiality (Article 21).
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	End of term of office or incompatibility of other offices.

**AUSTRIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Fourteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	President of the Austrian Federation on proposals made by the Federal Government (president, vice president, and six judges), by the National Council (three judges) and by the Federal Council (three judges).
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age seventy.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Legal studies ; at least ten years' experience in a legal profession. The president, vice-president and six judges (appointed by the Government) must be judges, local government officials or university professors of law. Three judges must be domiciled outside Vienna.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of the Federal or Land Governments, of the National or Federal Councils nor an agent or an employee of a political party.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Loss of confidence, breach of professional secrecy, or physical disability; failure for three successive occasions to attend sittings of the Constitutional Court (without valid reason); by judgement of the Constitutional Court itself.

**BELARUS**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Eleven.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Supreme Council of the Republic of Belarus.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Eleven years.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Law degree and wide professional ability in the field of law.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Persons elected in the Constitutional Court may not engage in business or carry out other paid activities except teaching or research work provided that they are not on the staff.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. voluntary resignation;</li><li>2. incapacity for health reasons to fulfil his duties;</li><li>3. death;</li><li>4. reaching the age limit (sixty years);</li><li>5. loss of the citizenship of the Republic of Belarus;</li><li>6. committing actions discrediting the Constitutional Court;</li><li>7. conviction of the court come into legal effect.</li></ol>

**BELGIUM**

**COURT OF ARBITRATION**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Twelve (six judges by the Dutch-language group and six by the French-language group forming two linguistic groups). Each linguistic group nominates a President who assumes in turn the role of the ("acting") President of the Court.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The King appoints judges from a dual list submitted alternately by the Chamber of Representatives and the Senate, after adoption by a two-thirds majority of the members present.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Appointed for life (limit of activity: seventy years).
QUALIFICATIONS:	Three judges in each linguistic group must have previous experience of at least five years as Federal, Community or Regional Parliamentary and three judges must have five years' experience as a judge at the Belgian Court of Cassation or at the Conseil d'Etat or as adviser at the Court of Arbitration or as Professor of Law at a Belgian university; one of them must have an adequate knowledge of German. The minimum age is forty.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	The office of judge at the Court of Arbitration is strictly incompatible with other functions, duties and professional occupations; exceptions may be made in the case of higher educational part-time functions.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Yes (removal from the office, by the judgement of the Court of Arbitration itself).

**BULGARIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Twelve.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Four are elected by the Parliament, four are appointed by the President of the Republic and four are elected by the Court of Cassation and the Supreme Administrative Court.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, non renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Lawyers of high professional and moral standing with at least fifteen years' experience in the legal profession.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of parliament or hold a government or public office or belong to a political party or a trade union and may not exercise a commercial or any other paid occupation.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Yes.

**CANADA**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nine (the Chief Justice of Canada and eight puisne Justices).
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Governor General on the proposal by the Prime Minister
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age seventy-five.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Superior court judges or barristers of at least ten years' standing at the Bar.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not hold any other remunerative office under the federal or provincial government, nor engage in any business enterprise.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	By motion of both federal chambers, for incapacity or misconduct (no case of such termination in the country's history).

**CROATIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Eleven.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Candidates are proposed by the chamber of _upanije (counties) and elected by the Chamber of Representatives of the Croatian Sabor.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Eight years.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Citizenship of Croatia, a law degree, at least fifteen year's experience in the legal profession, outstanding scholarly or professional achievements or outstanding public service; mainly from among judges, state attorneys and university professors in legal sciences.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not hold any other public office, engage in any other professional activity or be members of a political party.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	On own request, permanent incapacity, criminal proceedings instituted against a judge.



**CYPRUS**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Thirteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the Republic.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age sixty-eight (retirement age).
QUALIFICATIONS:	Lawyers of wide professional ability and high moral standing.
CONCURRENT OFFICE:	None
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	For misconduct, for mental or for physical incapacity or infirmity rendering the judge incapable of discharging the duties of his office.

**CZECH REPUBLIC**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Fifteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	President of the Republic with the consent of the Senate [Art. 84(2) and 106(2) of the Constitution].
TERM OF OFFICE:	Ten years renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Integrity ; forty years of age ; university law degree ; ten years experience in the legal profession.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judge may not be a President or member of Parliament or hold any office or position in the state bodies and any other profit making activities or be member of political parties (exceptions are declared in the statute).
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Resignation ; criminal conviction ; disciplinary reasons.

**DENMARK**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	The Supreme Court consists of a President and sixteen judges.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The King or Queen on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice who is advised by the President of the Supreme Court and the Presidents of the two High Courts.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Appointed for life. Judges must retire from office at the age of seventy. However, a judge may choose to retire earlier.
QUALIFICATIONS:	A law degree. As a rule, Supreme Court judges are recruited among persons who have been acting as either High court judge, president of one of the District courts, president or vice-president of the Maritime and Commercial Court, director of public prosecution, barrister of the Supreme Court, permanent secretary of state or university teacher of law for at least three years.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may only have permanent remunerated occupation concurrently with his office after obtaining a permission from a council consisting of the presidents of the two High Courts and the Supreme Court.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Judges shall not be dismissed except by a court decision, for instance because of criminal activity or incapability.

**ESTONIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COURT**

NUMBER OR JUDGES:	Five (constitutional review panel of the National Court: Chairman of the National Court and four judges).
APPOINTING AUTHORITIES:	The Chairman is appointed by the National Assembly on proposal by the President of the Republic and the others members of the Court are appointed by the National Assembly on proposal by the Chairman, for life. The members of the panel are elected by the general assembly of the National Court on proposal by the Chairman of the Court.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Term of five years re-eligible renewable for another term.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Judges must be legally qualified and at least thirty years old.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of the National Assembly or of a local government representative body, belong to the leadership of a political party or political movement, or hold an office of entrepreneur or director of a company for profit or be employed in activities others than pedagogy and scientific research.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	After a court decision.

**FINLAND**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	At least fifteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	President of the Republic.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age sixty-seven (retirement age).
QUALIFICATIONS:	Law degree and experience in the administration of justice.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	A judge of the Supreme Court may not hold the office of Member of Parliament. Otherwise, the general provisions concerning civil servants apply.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	For serious misconduct in office, by the High Court of Impeachment. For loss of Working capacity because of illness or disablement, by the Supreme Court itself.

**FINLAND**

**SUPREME ADMINISTRATIVE COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	At least sixteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	President of the Republic.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age sixty-seven (retirement age).
QUALIFICATIONS:	Law degree and experience in the administration of justice or in public administration.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	A judge of the Supreme Administrative Court may not hold the office of Member of Parliament. Otherwise, the general provisions concerning civil servants apply.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	For serious misconduct in office, by the High Court of Impeachment. For loss of working capacity because of illness or disablement, by the Supreme Administrative Court itself

**FRANCE**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COUNCIL**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nine.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the Republic and the president of each of the houses of parliament.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, non renewable. Former Presidents of the Republic are life members.
QUALIFICATIONS:	None except the provision made for former Presidents of the Republic.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of Government or of Economic and Social Council, they may not have any elective mandate, they may not be appointed to public office or receive selective promotion if they are civil servants and all the incompatibilities of offices provided for members of Parliament.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Incompatibility of office or permanent physical incapacity.

**GERMANY**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Sixteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Bundestag and Bundesrat.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Twelve years.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Forty years of age ; legal training enabling candidate to exercise the functions of judge in accordance with German legislation on the access to the judiciary.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Members are forbidden to practise any professional activity other than Professor of Law at a German university.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Permanent incapacity, dishonesty, serious misconduct or prison sentence.



**HUNGARY**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Eleven.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Parliament.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, renewable once.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Lawyers between forty-six and seventy-one years of age.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of political parties or exercise any political activities, be members of the Government, employees of a political party or have been a member of a government department during the four previous years ; be a member of Parliament, a member of local government or hold any other office in any state organ whatsoever, or engage in any other paid activity. Exception : pedagogic and scientific activities.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Criminal offences, failure to perform duties, misconduct.

**IRELAND**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Five at present (Chief Justice and four judges). The President of the High Court may also participate.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the Ireland on the Government's recommendation.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age seventy-two.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Members must be judges of the High Court or have been a practising barrister for at least twelve years.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of Parliament, or hold any other paid office or position.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Misconduct or declared incapacity.

**ICELAND**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Eight.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the Republic.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until retirement age.
QUALIFICATIONS:	The qualifications required for the position of judge: Must hold a first-class degree in law from the University of Iceland and minimum age thirty and have worked as a professor of law at the University of Iceland for three years or have represented litigants before the Supreme Court or have at least five years' experience as a legal official at the Ministry of Justice or in the Public Prosecutor's Department.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	-
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	-

**ITALY**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Fifteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Five are appointed by the Parliament, five by the President of the Republic and the remaining five are elected by the Supreme Courts.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, non renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	University professors, barristers with at least twenty years experience, judges from the supreme courts.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of Parliament or of Regional Councils or practise as lawyers or hold any other office indicated by the pertinent law.
PROVISIONS FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Physical or civil disability and failure to fulfil duties

**JAPAN**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Fifteen (the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and fourteen Justices of the Supreme Court).
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Chief Justice is appointed by the Emperor as designated by the Cabinet, and other Justices are appointed by the Cabinet.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age of seventy.
QUALIFICATIONS:	<p>Justices of the Supreme Court shall be appointed from among persons of broad vision and extensive knowledge of law, who are not less than forty years of age. At least ten of them shall be persons who have held one or two of the positions mentioned in the following items (1) or (2) for not less than ten years, or one or more of the positions mentioned in the following items for the total period of twenty years or more:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Presidents of the High Court;</li><li>2. Judges;</li><li>3. Judges of the Summary Courts;</li><li>4. Public Prosecutors;</li><li>5. Lawyers;</li><li>6. Professors or assistant professors in legal science in universities which shall be determined elsewhere by law.</li></ol>
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	<p>Judges shall not, while in office, do any of the following acts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. to become members of the Diet or of assemblies of local public entities;</li><li>2. to hold another salaried position without obtaining the permission of the Supreme Court;</li><li>3. to carry on any commercial business or a business which aims at pecuniary gain</li></ol>

**JAPAN** (continued)

PROVISION FOR EARLY  
TERMINATION OFFICE:

In review by the people at general election of members of the House of Representatives, when the majority of the voters is in favour of the dismissal of a judge, he or she shall be dismissed:

- by Impeachment Court ruling;
- by Judicial declaration of mentally or physically incompetent to perform official duties.

**LIECHTENSTEIN**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Five (and five substitutes).
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Judges are appointed by the Parliament. The election of the President of the Court shall be confirmed by the Prince.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Five years, renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Two judges must be trained in law. The President and the majority of the judges must have been born in Liechtenstein.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Incompatibility with the office of member of the Government or the position of civil servant or Lower Court judge. Judges of the Constitutional Court who belong at the same time to another Liechtenstein court or to the Parliament must withdraw from a sitting when a matter is to be considered in which the authority to which they belong has taken a decision or in which they have another interest.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OFFICE:	In case of conflict of functions, the person elected shall decide within fourteen days which position he wishes to fulfil.

**LITHUANIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nine.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Parliament, on proposals made by the President of the Republic (one-third), President of the Parliament (one-third) and the President of the Supreme Court (one third).
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, non renewable. Principle of rotation: every three years one-third of the Constitutional Court shall be reconstituted.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Lithuanian citizenship and an excellent reputation and qualified lawyer and at least ten years experience in the legal profession or in teaching in a field requiring legal qualifications.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Members may not engage in political activities, be a member of a political party, be employed in any business, institution or commercial or private company.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OFFICE:	Voluntary resignation or incapacity for health reasons or impeachment.



**THE NETHERLANDS**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Thirty-four.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Crown, i.e. the Government and the Queen.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Appointed for life, until age seventy.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Dutch citizenship, law degree. Approximately half the members have been members of the judiciary. The others have been practising lawyers or academics. The average age on appointment is around fifty.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of Parliament, practising lawyers, or notaries public, nor hold any other main position.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Conviction of a criminal offence. Being placed under legal restraint, or being in a state of bankruptcy. Breach of professional secrecy. Permanent incapacity to perform duties. Incompatible duties. Loss of Dutch citizenship.

**THE NETHERLANDS**

**COUNCIL OF STATE**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Thirty (the Queen, a vice-president and a maximum of twenty-eight Council members).
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Crown, i.e. the Government and the Queen on the recommendation of the Minister of the Interior and with the approval of the Minister of Justice.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Appointed for life.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Dutch citizenship, minimum age thirty-five.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Council members may not hold a public office with a fixed payment, be a chosen member of a public council, a practising lawyer, a notary public, an accountant, a tax consultant or an acting manager.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Conviction of a criminal offence. Being placed under legal restraint, or being in a state of bankruptcy. Breach of professional secrecy. Permanent incapacity for health reasons or incapacity to perform duties. Incompatible duties. Loss of Dutch citizenship.

**NORWAY**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Eighteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The King in Council.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age seventy.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Minimum age thirty and lawyers with the highest possible qualifications.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Does not apply.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Court decision.

**POLAND**

**CONSTITUTIONAL TRIBUNAL**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Twelve.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Diet.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Eight years, non renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Legal knowledge and skills required to perform the duties of a supreme court or administrative high court judge and under seventy years of age.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not members of Parliament or of the Senate or hold office in state bodies, or any other position.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Resignation, illness, criminal conviction.

**PORTUGAL**

**CONSTITUTIONAL TRIBUNAL**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Thirteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Ten are elected by the parliament on the basis of a 2/3 majority of the deputies; the other three are co-opted by the first ten.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Six years, renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Professional judges and lawyers.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not hold public or private office (with the exception of professor or legal scientific research) or to take part in public party-political activities.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Physical incapacity, resignation, incompatible duties, criminal conviction, disciplinary reasons.

**ROMANIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nine.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the Republic, the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, non renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Legal training and standing professional ability and at least eighteen years experience in a legal profession or in the teaching of law.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not hold any private or public office and may not be members of political parties.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	-

**RUSSIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nineteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Candidates are proposed by the President and elected by the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Twelve years, until age seventy (judges elected under the Law on the Constitutional Court - 1994). Until age sixty-five (judges elected under the Law on the Constitutional Court - 1991).
QUALIFICATIONS:	Forty years of age, irreproachable reputation, higher juridical education, fifteen years experience in legal profession.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of the Council of Federation, deputies of the State Duma or other representative bodies; they may not hold or retain other public or social office, have private practise, engage in entrepreneurial or any other paid activities apart from teaching, academic and other creative activity.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Personal application in writing for retirement by judge himself; loss of the citizenship of the Russian Federation; decision of conviction passed upon the judge that has come into legal effect; committing an act defamatory to the honour and dignity of a judge; continuation of occupation and actions incompatible with the office in spite of warning by the Constitutional Court; failure to attend the sessions or vote evasion for more than two times in succession without a valid reason; recognition of the judge's incapacity, or declaration of the judge as a missing person or a dead person by the court decision that has come into legal effect; death; incapacity due to health reasons or other valid reasons to perform duties during an extended period of time (not less than ten months in succession).

**SLOVAKIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Ten.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the Republic with the approval of the National Council of the Republic.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Seven years.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Slovakian citizenship and the right to vote and reside in Slovakia and minimum age forty and law degree and fifteen years' experience.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of political parties, hold posts in a government department or any other commercial activity or paid employment.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	By the President following conviction, disciplinary decision, conduct incompatible with the duties of a judge or failure to participate in the court's work.



**SLOVENIA**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nine.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Members are proposed by the President of the Republic and elected by the National Assembly.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, non renewable.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Slovenian citizenship, legal expert, age at least forty years.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Offices in States bodies of local communities, political parties and trade unions; work in State bodies and in public corporations; membership of management and supervisory bodies in business companies, institutes and co-operative societies; engagement in any kind of business or profit-making activities, except as university teacher, scientist or university expert.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Own request, criminal offence or permanent incapacity.

**SPAIN**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Twelve.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The King, on a proposals made by the Chamber of Representatives (four), the Senate (four), the Government and the General Council of the Judiciary.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Nine years, renewable but not immediately.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Lawyers of recognised ability, who are or have been judges, advocates-general, university professors, civil servants or lawyers who have exercised their profession for more than fifteen years.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Constitutional Court judges may exercise no other functions.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	None.

**SWEDEN**

**SUPREME ADMINISTRATIVE COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	At least sixteen.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Government, after consultation between the Court and the Minister of Justice.
TERM OF OFFICE:	In principle until age sixty-five.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Swedish citizenship, at least two-thirds of the members must have a law degree.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not hold any other office.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Criminal offence, serious or repeated failure to perform duties.

**SWEDEN**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	At least twenty-two.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Government, after consultation between the Court and the Minister of Justice.
TERM OF OFFICE:	In principle when the judge has reached the relevant age of retirement (age sixty-five).
QUALIFICATIONS:	Swedish citizenship, law degree.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not hold any other office.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Criminal offence, serious or repeated failure to perform duties.

**SWITZERLAND**

**FEDERAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Thirty.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The Federal Assembly.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Six years.
QUALIFICATIONS:	<p>Equitable representation of officials languages (article 107, Cst).</p> <p>In principle, any Swiss citizen aged eighteen or over may be elected as a judge or substitute judge: there are no requirements in respect of professional training. However, in practice, only law graduates or doctors of law are elected (cantonal judges, professors of law, lawyers and civil servants).</p>
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	<p>Federal judges may not perform any function for the confederation or canton nor follow another career or exercise a profession. Exception: arbitral functions and teaching in Universities (part-time).</p>
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OFFICE:	None.

**TURKEY**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Eleven.
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the Republic.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Until age sixty-five.
QUALIFICATIONS:	Members of one of the following bodies: the Court of Cassation, the Council of State, the Military Court of Cassation, the high Military Administrative Court and the Court of Audit; they may also be senior civil servants, lawyers, or teachers in institutes of higher education.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not hold any other public or private office (Article 146).
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Conviction or incapacity for health reasons (Article 147).

**UKRAINE**

**CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Fifteen (Chairman, two deputy chairmen, twelve members).
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	Elected by the "Verkhovna Rada" (Parliament) of Ukraine on the proposal of the Chairman of the "Verkhovna Rada" and the President, in an equal number and on consensus. Candidates to the positions of judges are discussed in advance at the sittings of the standing commissions to the "Verkhovna Rada". They are elected in an individual procedure by secret ballot, by way of submitting bulletins.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Ten years.
QUALIFICATIONS:	No less than forty years of age, with a higher education in law, and a background of practical, scientific or pedagogical activity in the field of law of no less than fifteen years.
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be people's deputies of Ukraine, may not belong to any political parties or movements whatsoever, may not be part of the bodies of the executive power, or other state bodies, and may not be engaged in entrepreneurial or other such activity, with the exception of pedagogical or scholarly activity in their spare time.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	<p>The authority of a judge to the Constitutional Court are terminated in conjunction with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. his own request for resignation;</li><li>2. loss of Ukrainian citizenship;</li><li>3. attainment of sixty-five years of age</li><li>4. breach of oath</li><li>5. Breach of requirements regarding concurrent offices (see point on concurrent offices);</li><li>6. a judicial verdict as to the guilt of the judge, which has entered into force.</li></ol> <p>The decision on terminating the authorities of the judges is adopted by the "Verkhovna Rada" and on submission of its Chairman.</p>

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**SUPREME COURT**

NUMBER OF JUDGES:	Nine (the Chief Justice and eight associate justices).
APPOINTING AUTHORITY:	The President of the United States with the advice and consent of the Senate.
TERM OF OFFICE:	Appointed for life.
QUALIFICATIONS:	-
CONCURRENT OFFICES:	Judges may not be members of Congress.
PROVISION FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF OFFICE:	Impeachment.