

Pursuant to Article 153 of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly, the Legislative and Legal Service has drafted the unofficial consolidated text of the Higher Education Act, incorporating the following:

- Higher Education Act – ZViS (Uradni list RS (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia), no. 67/93 of 17 December 1993),
- Decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia on the abrogation of the provision referred to in the second paragraph of Article 60 of the Higher Education Act, no. U-I-22/94-15 (Uradni list RS, no. 39/95 of 7 July 1995),
- Decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia on the abrogation of the second sentence in the second paragraph and of the third paragraph of Article 56, of the fifth indent of the first paragraph of Article 66 and of the third paragraph of Article 69 of the Higher Education Act, no. U-I-34/94 (Uradni list RS, no. 18/98 of 6 March 1998),
- Decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia on the partial abrogation of the second paragraph of Article 21 of the Higher Education Act, no. U-I-243/95-13 (Uradni list RS, no. 35/98 of 8 May 1998),
- The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-A (Uradni list RS, no. 99/99 of 9 December 1999),
- The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-B (Uradni list RS, no. 64/01 of 3 August 2001),
- The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-C (Uradni list RS, no. 100/03 of 17 October 2003),
- The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-D (Uradni list RS, no. 63/04 of 10 June 2004),
- The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-E (Uradni list RS, no. 94/06 of 8 September 2006),
- Scholarship Act – ZŠtip (Uradni list RS, no. 59/07 of 4 July 2007),
- Decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia on the abrogation of the eighth paragraph of Article 50 of the Higher Education Act, no. U-I-370/06-20 (Uradni list RS, no. 15/08 of 11 February 2008),
- The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-F (Uradni list RS, no. 64/08 of 27 June 2008),
- The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-G (Uradni list RS, no. 86/09 of 30 October 2009),
- Exercise of Rights to Public Funds Act – ZUPJS (Uradni list RS, no. 62/10 of 30 July 2010),
- Decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia on the abrogation of Article 43 of the Higher Education Act, no. U-I-156/08-16 (Uradni list RS, no. 34/11 of 6 May 2011),

- Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-H (Uradni list RS, no. 78/11 of 5 October 2011),
- Fiscal Balance Act – ZUJF (Uradni list RS, no. 40/12 of 30 May 2012),
- Act amending the Road Transport Act – ZPCP-2D (Uradni list RS, no. 57/12 of 27 July 2012),
- Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-I (Uradni list RS, no. 109/12 of 31 December 2012).

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Service

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT
UNOFFICIAL CONSOLIDATED TEXT
(ZViS-NPB10)

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1
(content of the Act)

This Act shall regulate issues pertaining to the status of higher education institutes and the requirements for the performance of higher education activities, define the public service in higher education and regulate its system of funding.

This Act also regulates status issues of libraries and institutes, as well as other institutions whose activities are required for the fulfilment of higher education activities, provided that they have been established as part of universities (hereinafter: other university member institutions), and of student halls of residence.

Article 2
(types of higher education institutions)

Higher education institutions comprise universities, faculties, academies of art and higher vocational colleges.

Article 3
(universities)

Universities shall ensure the development of science, professions and the arts, and through faculties, academies of art or higher vocational colleges, shall in the education process transfer knowledge from multiple scientific or artistic fields and disciplines.

Universities may directly organise the provision of scientific, research and interdisciplinary study programmes.

Article 4
(faculties and academies of art)

Faculties shall predominantly perform scientific, research and educational activities in the areas of one or more related or interconnected scientific disciplines, and shall foster the development thereof.

Academies of art shall predominantly perform artistic and educational activities in the areas of one or more related or interconnected artistic disciplines, and shall foster the development thereof.

Article 5
(higher vocational colleges)

Higher vocational colleges shall perform educational activities in the areas of one or more related or interconnected professions, and shall foster the development thereof.

Higher vocational colleges may also perform research or artistic work, if so provided by their memorandums of associations.

Article 6
(autonomy of higher education institutions)

Universities shall be autonomous, science and research, artistic and educational higher education institutions with special status.

Universities and independent higher education institutions established by the Republic of Slovenia shall operate according to the principles of autonomy, which primarily ensures them:

- freedom of research, artistic creativity and transfer of knowledge,
- independent arrangement of internal organisation and operation by statute in accordance with the law,
- the adoption of criteria for election to titles of higher education teachers, scientific workers and higher education staff,
- election to titles of higher education teachers, scientific workers and higher education staff,
- selection of higher education teachers, scientific workers and higher education staff to occupy posts,
- preparation and adoption of academic, scientific and research programmes, determination of study regimes and determination of the forms and periods of testing of the knowledge of students,
- granting of professional and scientific titles in accordance with the law, and the awarding of honorary doctorates and the title of professor emeritus,
- election, appointment and closure of bodies in accordance with the articles of association and other acts,
- decisions on the forms of cooperation with other organisations,
- asset management in accordance with the purpose for which they were acquired.

Article 7
(education under equal conditions)

Citizens of the Republic of Slovenia shall have the right to education in higher education institutions in the Republic of Slovenia under equal conditions.

Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship may receive education at higher education institutions in the Republic of Slovenia under the same conditions as citizens of the Republic of Slovenia.

Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship under this Act shall be descendants of persons of Slovenian nationality up to the third generation.

Citizens of European Union Member States shall have the right to education in higher education institutions in the Republic of Slovenia under conditions equal to those for citizens of the Republic of Slovenia.

Foreign citizens may – on condition of the application of the principle of reciprocity – receive education at higher education institutions in the Republic of Slovenia under the same conditions as for citizens of the Republic of Slovenia.

Detailed conditions relating to the number of available places, the payment of tuition fees, accommodation in student halls of residence and other rights and responsibilities of students in accordance with this Act for the education of persons from the second and fourth paragraphs of this Article and for foreign citizens shall be determined by the minister responsible for higher education. More favourable entrance conditions may be provided by the articles of association of public higher education institutions for Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship.

Article 7a

(grants to foreign citizens and Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship)

The Republic of Slovenia may provide to Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship, and also to foreign citizens with respect to international treaties and agreements or subject to reciprocity, grants or study assistance for study under study programmes for education or additional training.

Selection of candidates for grants or study assistance shall take account of the conditions laid down in international treaties or agreements, or where such treaties or agreements contain no such conditions, it shall take account of candidates' academic success.

Detailed conditions and the method of awarding grants or study assistance to Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship and foreign citizens shall be determined by the minister responsible for higher education.

(Note: the provisions of this Article shall cease to apply on 1 September 2008; see Article 69 of ZŠtip)

Article 8

(language of instruction)

The language of instruction shall be Slovenian.

Higher education institutions may provide study programmes or parts thereof in a foreign language under the conditions laid down by their articles of association.

If a higher education institution provides a public service, the following may be provided in a foreign language:

- foreign-language study programmes,
- parts of study programmes, if visiting higher education teachers from other countries participate in the provision thereof, or a large number of foreign students is enrolled therein,
- study programmes if such programmes are also provided in Slovenian at the higher education institution.

Higher education institutions shall ensure the development of Slovenian as a professional and scientific language.

Foreign citizens and Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship shall be enabled to learn Slovenian.

The minister responsible for higher education shall define the detailed method of ensuring the development and learning of Slovenian.

II. DEFINITION OF THE STATUS OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, OTHER UNIVERSITY MEMBER INSTITUTIONS AND STUDENT HALLS OF RESIDENCE

Article 9 (establishing an institution)

Higher education institutions, other university member institutions (members of a university), and student halls of residence may be established by Slovenian or foreign natural or legal persons.

In order to provide a public service in higher education, the Republic of Slovenia shall establish public higher education institutions, other public university member institutions and student halls of residence.

Article 10 (legal subjectivity of universities and members thereof)

Universities shall be legal entities. Faculties and academies of art and possibly also higher vocational colleges and other university member institutions (hereinafter: members of the university), shall be established within a university.

Members of a university shall have the rights and obligations laid down by this Act, the university memorandum of association and the university articles of association.

In implementing the National Programme of Higher Education, which shall be funded by the Republic of Slovenia, university members shall participate in legal transactions with the authorisations laid down by the memorandum and articles of association of the university for and on behalf of the university.

In other cases, university members shall participate in legal transactions for and on behalf of themselves in accordance with the memorandum and articles of association of the university.

University members may have giro accounts.

Article 10a (international association of universities)

An international association of universities based in the Republic of Slovenia shall be established on the basis of a written agreement or contract by at least one university established in accordance with this Act, and having accredited study programmes in at least three fields according to the ISCED classification and a research activity in at least three fields according to the Frascati classification, and by at least one university based outside of the Republic of Slovenia and accredited in the country where it is based. Together with the universities defined above, an international association of universities may be established by

other universities, other university associations or university networks, higher education and research organisations based in the Republic of Slovenia or outside it. Universities established by the Republic of Slovenia require the consent of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in order to establish an international association of universities.

On the establishment of an international association of universities based in the Republic of Slovenia and established according to the law of the Republic of Slovenia, the articles of association or other constitutive instrument of such international association of universities shall contain everything that should be regulated by a memorandum of association according to the law. An international association of universities referred to in this paragraph shall be entered in the register kept by the court, according to the regulations on court registers, on the basis of an agreement or memorandum and articles of association or other constitutive instrument of an international association of universities.

An international association of universities referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be a university according to this act notwithstanding compliance with the conditions for the establishment of a university and for entry in the register of higher education institutions.

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, an international association of universities referred to in the second paragraph of this article shall have bodies determined by a memorandum or articles of association or other constitutive instrument of the association. In the management of an international association of universities referred to in the second paragraph of this article, students shall have rights laid down by an agreement or a memorandum or articles of association or other constitutive instrument of the association.

An international association of universities based in the Republic of Slovenia cannot receive for its operation funds from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia earmarked for the academic activities of public and concessionary higher education institutions and investments in higher education. An international association of universities based in the Republic of Slovenia shall receive for its operation funds from a separate item of the budget of the Republic of Slovenia.

In the event of the dissolution of an international association of universities under this Article, the founders shall be obliged to enable students to complete their studies at the founding universities. Any real estate acquired through funds of the Republic of Slovenia or the European Union shall be owned by the Republic of Slovenia.

Article 11
(independent higher education institutions)

Faculties and academies of art which are not public higher education institutions and higher vocational colleges may be established as independent higher education institutions and shall be legal entities.

Article 11a
(union of independent higher education institutions)

Independent higher education institutes shall unite in the Union of Independent Higher education institutions with the aim of addressing and harmonising matters of mutual concern.

The Union of Independent Higher education institutions shall become representative when it unites at least 70 per cent of all independent higher education institutions.

Article 12
(associate university members)

Independent higher education institutions and other institutions may join a university as associate members.

Conditions of association and the rights and obligations of associate members shall be regulated by the university statute.

Article 13
(assets)

A university or an independent higher education institution established by the Republic of Slovenia shall be the owner of assets acquired from public and other sources.

Higher education institutions shall manage and freely dispose of the assets used in the performance of their activities in accordance with their memorandums or articles of association, unless otherwise provided by this Act.

A university or an independent higher education institution referred to in the first paragraph of this Article may only appropriate or encumber real estate or high-value equipment obtained from public funds in agreement with the founder.

Funds raised from the sale of assets referred to in the preceding paragraph of this Article may be used for investments, major maintenance and equipment.

Article 14
(conditions for establishing an institution)

- A higher education institution may be established provided that:
- the areas of study and research and art disciplines for which the higher education institution is being established are defined, wherein the ISCED classification shall apply to the definition of areas of study and the international Frascati classification shall apply to the definition of research fields,
 - suitable premises and equipment required for the programme are secured,
 - higher education teaching staff, scientific staff and higher education staff required for the programme have been secured.

For the establishment of a university, the conditions for the provision of study programmes at all three levels must be met, while for independent higher education institutions that are faculties and academies of arts, the conditions for at least two levels must be met, and for independent higher education institutions that are higher vocational colleges, the conditions for the first level must be met.

Prior to adopting a memorandum of association, the founder shall obtain a decision on the accreditation of the higher education institution from the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

A higher education institution shall obtain a decision on reaccreditation of a higher education institution from the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education at least every seven years. The validity of the accreditation shall be considered to expire at the end of the academic year in which the period of the granted accreditation expires.

A higher education institution shall submit an application for reaccreditation at least one year prior to the expiry of the accreditation. If a higher education institution submits an application in the interval referred to in the preceding sentence and the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education does not decide on it until the expiry of the accreditation, the accreditation shall be considered valid until the finality of the new decision on reaccreditation.

Article 15

(adopting the memorandum of association of a public higher education institution)

The memorandum of association of a public higher education institution and other university member institution shall be adopted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia.

Article 16

(determining conditions for commencing work and performing activities)

A higher education institution may commence its activities upon entry in the register of higher education institutions.

The register shall be maintained by the ministry responsible for higher education.

A higher education institution shall be entered in the register if:

- it was established in accordance with this Act and it is entered in the court register,
- it has an accredited study programme,
- it has secured higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff required for the implementation of the study programme,
- it has secured suitable premises and equipment, and the conditions regarding technical equipment, safety at work and other prescribed conditions have been met.

Higher education institutions established by the Republic of Slovenia shall be inscribed in the register *ex officio*, and private higher education institutions at the suggestion of the founder.

The decision of the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education concerning the reaccreditation of the higher education institution and the study programme shall also be inscribed in the register of higher education institutions.

If deficiencies were found in the reaccreditation of a higher education institution or a study programme, and if such deficiencies are not eliminated within a specific interval and a higher education institution or a study programme was not reaccredited as a result, a procedure may be initiated to remove the same from the register of higher education institutions.

The content and form of the register shall be determined by the minister responsible for higher education.

Article 17
(conditions for the provision of non-state-approved programmes)

A higher education institution not providing state-approved study programmes may commence work after the study programme has been adopted in accordance with its statute and in compliance with the conditions regarding technical equipment, safety at work and other prescribed requirements.

Article 18
(protection of the names of higher education institutions)

The titles university, faculty, academy of art and higher vocational college may be used in legal transactions only by higher education institutions established in accordance with this Act that comply with the conditions for the performance of higher education activities provided in Articles 16 and 17 of this Act.

Article 19
(statute)

Higher education institutions which are legal entities shall have a statute regulating their organization and operation.

Article 20
(bodies)

The bodies of a university shall be: rector, senate, administrative board and student council.

The bodies of a university member shall be: dean, senate, academic assembly and student council.

The body of another university member institution shall be a director and possibly a professional council.

The bodies of a higher education institution which is not a university member shall be: senate, academic assembly, administrative board, student council and dean.

Higher education institutions and other university member institutions may have other bodies in accordance with their memorandums or articles of association.

Article 21
(senate)

The senate shall be the professional body of a higher education institution.

The senate of the university shall be elected by the senates of the university members such that all scientific, artistic and professional disciplines are equally represented.

The senate of a faculty, academy of art or higher vocational college shall comprise higher education teachers and, if so provided by the statute, also scientific staff. It must be

composed such that all scientific, artistic and professional disciplines of the higher education institution are equally represented. The number of senate members shall be laid down by the statute.

The rector of the university shall *ex officio* be a member of the university senate, while the dean shall *ex officio* be a member of the senate of a university member or independent higher education institution.

Representatives of the university student council shall *ex officio* be members of the university senate; while representatives of the student councils of faculties, academies or art and vocational colleges shall *ex officio* be members of the senates of the respective higher education institutions. Students shall form at least one-fifth of the senate membership.

The professional council shall be the professional body of other university member institutions. The composition thereof shall be laid down by the university statute in accordance with the memorandum of association.

Article 21(a) (academic assembly)

The academic assembly of a university member or an independent higher education institution shall comprise all higher education teachers, scientific workers and higher education staff. Student representatives shall also participate in its work, such that they shall comprise at least one-fifth of the members of the academic assembly. The method of their participation shall be laid down by the statute.

The academic assembly shall:

- elect the senate,
- propose candidates for dean to the senate,
- discuss the working reports of the higher education institution and submit proposals and initiatives to the senate,
- perform other tasks laid down by the statute.

The academic assembly shall elect a president from among its members. The president shall convene and chair meetings.

If an academic assembly formed in compliance with the first paragraph of this Article has more than 200 members, it shall be formed such that individual groups have a proportionate number of representatives, wherein the academic assembly shall not have fewer than 100 members.

The method of forming the academic assembly referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be laid down by the statute.

Article 22 (administrative board)

The administrative board shall be the administrative body of a higher education institution.

In addition to tasks laid down by law, the administrative board shall decide upon matters of a material nature and shall ensure the undisturbed material operation of the higher education institution.

The administrative board of a higher education institution established by the Republic of Slovenia shall comprise representatives of the founder, representatives of workers engaged in higher education activities, representatives of students, a representative of other workers and representatives of employers.

The composition of the administrative board of a private higher education institution shall be laid down by the memorandum and articles of association.

Article 23 (rector)

The rector shall manage, represent and act on behalf of the university, and shall perform the following tasks:

- convene and, as a rule, chair senate meetings,
- coordinate the educational, scientific, research and artistic and other work of the university,
- ensure and be responsible for the lawfulness of the work of the university, for fulfilment of its obligations laid down by statute, other regulation and general acts of the university,
- with the consent of the senate, adopt criteria on the quality of the university, study programmes, scientific, research, artistic and professional work, and be responsible for the monitoring, determination and assurance of quality (university self-evaluation),
- report to the senate, administrative board and the founder of the university at least once a year,
- award doctorates,
- confer university awards,
- perform other tasks in compliance with the law, other regulations and general acts of the university.

The rector shall be elected by all higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff employed by the university. Students shall also have the right to vote in the amount of one-fifth of the votes of all higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff employed by the university.

Article 24 (dean or director)

The dean and/or director of a university member shall have powers and responsibilities in accordance with the memorandum of association, shall be the professional head of the university member and shall perform the following tasks:

- coordinate education, scientific, research, artistic and other work,
- ensure and be responsible for the lawfulness of work,
- be responsible for the monitoring, assessment and quality assurance of the university member, study programmes, scientific, research, artistic and professional work, and prepare an annual report on quality (self-evaluation of the member),
- report on work to the senate of the member institution and the rector at least once a year,
- other tasks in accordance with the law, other regulations and university general acts.

Any individual employed as a higher education teacher of a university member or an independent higher education institution may be appointed its dean.

Any individual with at least higher education may be appointed director.

The dean and the director of a university member shall be appointed by the rector at the suggestion of the senate or the professional council of the university member.

The dean of a higher education institution which is not a university member shall be the management body and the professional head of the institution.

Article 25
(separation of functions)

With regard to the nature of activities and scope of work of a higher education or other institution, the statute may require the management of professional work and management functions to be separated. In such instances, the statute shall determine the competences of the professional head and the competences of the management body.

Article 26
(student council)

The student council shall be composed of student representatives.

The student council shall discuss and give opinions to the competent body on the status of the higher education institution, on all issues pertaining to the rights and responsibilities of students, and may also give opinions on candidates for rector and dean, and shall adopt and implement a programme of extracurricular activities for students of the higher education institution in cooperation with the student community.

If the opinion referred to in the preceding paragraph is not taken into account, the student council may demand that the competent body again discuss and decide upon the individual matter in the manner and procedure defined by the statute.

Article 27
(secretariat of a higher education institution)

Higher education institutions shall have a secretariat run by a secretary to perform administrative, professional and technical tasks.

Article 28
(organization of bodies)

The tasks, competences, number of members, method of election, durations of mandates and the methods of decision-making of bodies of higher education institutions and other university members shall be regulated in detail by their statute in accordance with the law and the memorandum of association.

Article 29
(rectors' conference)

In order to discuss and coordinate matters of common importance, universities shall establish a rectors' conference.

Article 30
(seal)

Public higher education institutions and other institutions within such institutions shall have a round seal with the name and official address of the higher education institution and the coat of arms of the Republic of Slovenia. Such seals shall also be used by higher education institutions when providing a public service pursuant to a concession.

Article 31
(student halls of residence)

The operating of student halls of residence shall be a public service. They may be provided by universities, other institutions, companies, sole traders and other legal entities. They shall ensure that students' interests are represented in their management of the provision of services.

Student halls of residence may be established within a university as a member thereof.

The bodies of a student hall of residence that is a member of a university shall be director and a student residents' council.

Students who are members of the student residents' council shall represent the interests of students in management in accordance with the law, memorandum and articles of association.

III. TEACHING, SCIENTIFIC, RESEARCH AND ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

Article 32
(accreditation of study programmes)

Education and training study programmes shall be adopted by the senate of the university at the suggestion of the senate of a university member or the senate of an independent higher education institution.

Higher education institutions shall accredit study programmes with the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education at least every seven years. The validity of the accreditation shall be considered to expire at the end of the academic year in which the period of the granted accreditation expires.

A higher education institution shall submit an application for reaccreditation at least one year prior to the expiry of the accreditation. If a higher education institution submits the application in the interval referred to in the preceding sentence and the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education does not decide on it until the expiry of the accreditation, the accreditation shall be considered valid until the finality of the new decision on reaccreditation.

Study programmes shall become state-approved upon the accreditation with the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. Higher education institutions shall publish them no later than the publication of the call for enrolment.

Independent higher education institutions shall modify the compulsory elements of study programmes in accordance with the procedure of their adoption, pursuant to

Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article. Universities shall modify compulsory elements of study programmes by themselves. They shall notify the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education of the alterations of compulsory elements of study programmes within 30 days of their adoption.

Modifications of compulsory elements of study programmes shall enter into force in the following academic year if they are adopted prior to the publication of the call for enrolment.

State-approved programmes include those accredited in the European Union member states and implemented by an international association of universities referred to in the second paragraph of Article 10a of this Act, if their diplomas are considered public documents in the country of accreditation, if they grant a state-approved education level and a state-approved title in this country, and are provided by accredited organisations in the country of accreditation. These programmes shall be notified to the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education and entered in the register of higher education institutions at the ministry competent for higher education. The application for notification and entry in the register must be accompanied by a positive opinion of at least one higher education institution that meets the classification criteria referred to in Article 10a, is based in the Republic of Slovenia and provides a comparable study programme required for individual recognition of diplomas for the establishment of the equality of foreign professional or academic titles with Slovenian professional or academic titles.

The Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education shall recognise the state-approved status of study programmes accredited in other countries if the conditions referred to in the preceding paragraph have been met.

Article 32a (state-approved education and documents)

Anyone completing all obligations under an educational study programme shall obtain a state-approved educational qualification and shall receive a diploma which shall be a public document. The contents and form of diplomas shall be determined by the competent body of the higher education institution and shall be published in *Uradni List Republike Slovenije*.

The “Appendix to the diploma” shall form a constituent part of the diploma. Higher education institutions shall issue them in Slovenian and one of the official languages of the European Union. Elements of the form shall be determined by the minister responsible for higher education at the suggestion of the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Diplomas and “Appendices to diplomas” shall be free of charge.

Anyone completing all obligations under a training study programme or under part of an educational study programme shall obtain a certificate, which shall be a public document.

Insofar as the study programme is provided by an international association of universities, it shall be marked on the diploma or certificate that the study programme is provided in the framework of an international association of universities.

Article 33

(educational study programmes)

Educational study programmes shall be classified into three levels:

- a) first level
 - professional higher education study programmes,
 - university study programmes,
- b) second level
 - master's study programmes,
 - long non-structured master's study programmes,
- c) third level
 - doctorate study programmes.

First-level study programmes shall be undergraduate study programmes, while study programmes of the second and third levels shall be postgraduate study programmes.

Professional higher education study programmes enable students to acquire professional knowledge and skills in the application of scientific methods to solve challenging professional and work problems, the development of communication skills within and among professions, professional critical thinking and responsibility, initiative and independence in decision-making and management. Practical education in a working environment shall form a mandatory component of such study programmes.

University study programmes enable students to acquire professional knowledge through the study of theoretical and methodological concepts, skills in the transfer and use of theoretical knowledge to practice and to solve professional and work programmes, particularly through the search for new sources of knowledge and the use of scientific methods, the development of communication skills within and among professions, professional critical thinking and responsibility, initiative and independence in decision-making and management of challenging work. Practical education in a working environment or participation in research work shall form a mandatory component of such programmes.

Master's study programmes enable students to deepen their knowledge in broader professional areas, to train to find new sources of knowledge in professional and scientific fields, to use scientific and research methods in a broad spectrum of problems and in new or modified circumstances, to accept responsibility for the management of the most challenging work systems and to develop critical reflection, social and communications abilities to manage group work. Projects in a working environment or basic, applied or development research tasks shall form a mandatory component of such programmes.

Integrated masters' study programmes enable students to acquire and deepen their professional knowledge and qualifications referred to in Paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Article. In terms of the call for enrolment, enrolment conditions and selection criteria in the event of restricted enrolment, they shall be subject to the legal provisions concerning first-level university study programmes.

Integrated masters' study programmes may be introduced if they provide education for professions regulated by EU directives, and exceptionally for other professions in the Republic of Slovenia if this is provided by a special regulation.

Doctorate study programmes enable students to acquire a deeper understanding of theoretical and methodological concepts and skills to independently develop new knowledge and to solve the most challenging problems through testing and improving knowledge and the discovery of new solutions, to manage the most challenging work systems and scientific and research projects across broad professional or scientific fields and

to develop critical reflection. Basic or applied research tasks shall also form mandatory components of such programmes.

The objectives and positions for designing study programmes shall be detailed by a national higher education qualification network.

Article 33a
(training study programmes)

Training study programmes are a form of lifelong learning and are intended primarily for training, supplementing, deepening and updating knowledge.

In addition to programmes referred to in the preceding paragraph, higher education institutions may also organise various forms of informal learning, such as courses, summer schools, training programmes and the like, provided so doing does not affect the provision of educational study programmes.

Article 33b
(joint study programmes)

Joint study programmes shall be educational study programmes adopted and provided by a higher education institution in conjunction with one or more higher education institutions from the Republic of Slovenia or from abroad.

In addition to the provisions of this Act, higher education institutions shall also take account of the criteria for the design and adoption of joint study programmes adopted by the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Anyone completing all obligations under a joint educational study programme shall obtain a joint diploma citing all the higher education institutions participating in the provision of the study programme. A joint diploma shall be a public document. The contents and form of joint diplomas and appendices to diplomas shall be determined by the participating higher education institutions.

Article 33c
(transnational education)

The term "transnational higher education" under this Act means all forms and methods of higher education in which a state-approved study programme is carried out entirely or in part in a country other than that in which the institution responsible for the higher education programme is based.

In the Republic of Slovenia, transnational higher education may be carried out or organised on the basis of a contract between a higher education institution accredited in the Republic of Slovenia and a foreign higher education institution carrying out state-approved study programmes and issuing public documents in the country in which it has been established.

In the Republic of Slovenia, transnational higher education programmes may also be carried out by a foreign higher education institution or other foreign institution if the competent authorities of the country where the institution responsible for the higher education programme is based recognise that in the case of a higher education programme

carried out transnationally the institution responsible for that programme and the programme itself are suitable for their higher education system, which shall be verified by the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education before the transnational education programme is carried out.

Higher education institutions accredited in the Republic of Slovenia in compliance with this Act may carry out transnational higher education abroad on the basis of a contract with an appropriate higher education institution abroad, and may award Slovenian public documents.

Detailed conditions, the methods and forms of transnational higher education, the obligatory elements of the contract on the provision of transnational higher education referred to in the second and fourth paragraphs of this Article and the method for determining whether the conditions referred to in the third paragraph of this Article have been fulfilled shall be determined by the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

A document certifying the completion of transnational higher education carried out in the Republic of Slovenia as a part of the foreign higher education system shall be considered a foreign document and shall be subject to the procedure for the evaluation or recognition of education in the Republic of Slovenia.

Article 34 (providers of study programmes)

Study programmes referred to in Articles 33, 33a and 33b of this Act shall be organised and provided by universities, faculties and academies of art.

Higher vocational colleges shall organise and provide professional higher education study programmes and training study programmes. If so provided by the memorandum of association, and if it is determined in the accreditation procedure that they have secured suitable higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff, and that they comply with the conditions for the performance of scientific, research or artistic work, they may also provide master's study programmes; otherwise they may only do so in cooperation with a higher education institution referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Article 35 (components of educational study programmes)

Educational study programmes shall be designed according to the principles regarding the establishment of a European education space, so that they are comparable with the programmes of other higher education institutions in this space.

Educational study programmes of the first and second levels shall have the following compulsory components:

- general data on the programme (name, level, type, duration),
- definition of the basic objectives of the programme or of the general and subject-specific competences acquired from the programme,
- data on the international comparability of the programme,
- data on international cooperation of the higher education institution,
- a syllabus with credit assessment of study obligations under the European Credit Transfer System (hereinafter: ECTS) and a definition of the share of selectivity in the programme,
- enrolment conditions and selection criteria in the event of restricted enrolment,

- criteria for recognising knowledge and skills acquired prior to enrolment in the programme,
- assessment methods;
- conditions for advancement under the programme;
- conditions for transferring among programmes,
- method of provision of study,
- conditions for completing study,
- conditions for completing individual parts of the programme, if the programme contains such,
- the professional title, created in accordance with the law.

Doctorate study programmes form the basis for the preparation of study and research programmes for an individual student. Doctorate study programmes shall appropriately define the compulsory components given in the previous paragraph, except for the components given in the eighth, eleventh, thirteenth and fourteenth indents. These shall be defined in the programme if so required by the articles of association of the higher education institution. The syllabus shall determine the content areas and credit assessment of the obligations that may be allocated in the study and research programme of an individual student (group forms of study work, group or individual research work). Organised forms of study under a doctorate study programme shall comprise at least 60 credits. The doctorate study programme shall also determine the scientific title created in accordance with the law.

Educational study programmes may also have other components laid down by the statute of the higher education institution.

Article 35a (components of training study programmes)

Compulsory components of training study programmes shall be:

- general data on the programme (name, type, duration),
- definition of the basic objectives of the programme or of the general and subject-specific competences acquired from the programme,
- syllabus with credit assessment of study obligations under the ECTS and definition of the share of selectivity in the programme,
- enrolment conditions and selection criteria in the event of restricted enrolment,
- criteria for recognising knowledge and skills acquired prior to enrolment in the programme,
- assessment methods,
- conditions for advancement under the programme,
- method of provision of study,
- conditions for completing the study programme.

Training study programmes may also have other components laid down by the statute of the higher education institution.

Article 36 (study obligations and duration of studies)

Study obligations shall be assessed in study programmes with credits under the ECTS. Individual years of a study programme shall cover 60 credits.

Professional higher education study programmes and university study programmes shall comprise 180-240 credits and shall last three to four years.

Master's study programmes shall comprise 60-120 credits and shall last from one to two years, such that in the same professional field together with the first-level study programme they last five years. Master's study programmes comprising 60 credits shall enable students who completed studies valued at 180 credits to obtain an additional year, so that they obtain a total of 120 credits, as required for completion of a master's study programme.

The duration of study under study programmes receiving education for occupations regulated by European Union directives must be harmonised by such directives. Integrated master's study programmes for other professions in the Republic of Slovenia referred to in the seventh paragraph of Article 33 of this Act shall comprise 300 credits and shall last five years.

Doctorate study programmes shall comprise 180 credits and shall last three years.

Study under study programmes of the first and second levels may also be provided in parts determined by the programme.

Training study programmes shall comprise no less than 10 and no more than 60 credits.

Article 37 (academic year and course load)

The academic year shall run from 1 October to 30 September.

Undergraduate study programmes shall comprise at least 20 and at most 30 hours of lectures, seminars and exercises per week and 30 weeks per year. If a study programme contains practical training, the total load on the student may not exceed 40 hours per week and 42 weeks per year.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, and if compatible with the nature of the course, the organization and schedule of lectures, seminars and exercises may be adapted to the possibilities of students (part-time studies). This shall be done in the manner and under the procedure laid down by the statute.

In the manner and under the procedure laid down by the statute, the organization and schedule of lectures, seminars and exercises at academies of art may be adapted by the study programme.

Article 38 (enrolment conditions)

Anyone who has passed a *matura* examination may enter a first-level higher education programme.

Individuals having passed a vocational *matura*, after having completed a secondary technical education programme in a specific discipline and an examination in one of the *matura* subjects, may also be admitted to the university study programme in the same discipline.

The appropriate secondary technical education programme and *matura* subject referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be stipulated by the study programme.

Individuals having passed a vocational *matura* or a final examination under the appropriate secondary technical education defined by the study programme may also be admitted to a higher professional study programme.

Study programmes may also define special talents or mental and physical skills as an entrance requirement.

An academy of art may stipulate in its study programme that those who do not meet the requirements from the first, second and fourth paragraphs of this Article but who possess outstanding artistic talent may nevertheless be admitted to its study programme.

Article 38a

(conditions for enrolment in master's and doctoral study programme)

Master's study programmes shall be accessible to anyone who completed:

- a first-level study programme in appropriate professional fields,
- a first-level study programme in other professional fields if he or she completed study obligations essential for the continuation of the study programme prior to enrolment; these obligations shall be determined in view of the differences in professional fields and shall comprise 10 to 60 credits at most; candidates may complete them during the first-level studies, in training programmes or by passing exams prior to enrolment in a masters' study programme.

The professional fields referred to in the first indent and the study obligations referred to in the second indent of the preceding paragraph shall be determined by the masters' study programme.

Master's study programmes may also define special talents, mental and physical skills or work experience as an entrance requirement.

Doctoral study programmes shall be accessible to anyone who has completed:

- a second-level study programme,
- a study programme referred to in the fourth paragraph of Article 36 of this Act if it is valued at 300 credits.

Article 38b

(equivalence of foreign education)

The conditions referred to in Articles 38 and 38a of this Act shall also be met by persons who completed equivalent education abroad.

Article 39

(transfers)

In accordance with the criteria set by the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, study programmes shall set the conditions for transfers between study programmes of the same level and the conditions for transfers from higher education study programmes to first-level study programmes.

Article 40
(call for enrolment)

Enrolment in state-approved study programmes provided by public and concessionary higher education institutions shall be carried out pursuant to a public call.

There shall be a single call for undergraduate programmes that shall be published at least six months prior to the start of the academic year. It may include the calls of independent higher education institutions which provide state-approved undergraduate study programmes without concession.

Calls for enrolment in postgraduate study programmes shall be published at least four months prior to the beginning of an academic year.

The call shall comprise:

- name and address of the higher education institution,
- name of study programme,
- location of provision of the study programme,
- duration of studies,
- enrolment conditions,
- anticipated number of study places available,
- procedures and deadlines for applications and implementation of the call.

The higher education institution shall be obliged to obtain consent for the contents of the call from the Government of the Republic of Slovenia prior to publication.

Procedures and deadlines from the last indent of the fourth paragraph of this Article and the method of publication of the call shall be determined by the minister responsible for higher education.

Article 41
(restricted admission)

A higher education institution may restrict admission to study programmes offered as a public service, if the number of applications substantially exceeds the number of places available or its capacities (personnel, facilities, equipment, etc.).

In selecting candidates for professional and university higher education study programmes, the general result in the *matura*, vocational *matura* or secondary school final examination and the general results achieved in years 3 and 4 of secondary school shall be taken into account; while results in individual subjects of the *matura*, vocational *matura* or secondary school final examination stipulated by the study programme, and of individual subjects taken in years 3 and 4 of secondary school, may also be taken into account.

In selecting candidates for masters' study programmes, the general result in the first-level studies (average grade, grade of diploma thesis) shall be taken into account, while results in individual subjects stipulated by the study programme, and of individual first-level subjects or the optional examination stipulated by the study programme may also be taken into account.

In selecting candidates for doctoral study programmes, the general result in the second-level studies (average grade, grade of master's thesis) shall be taken into account,

while results in the optional examination stipulated by the study programme or test of artistic talents or mental and physical abilities may also be taken into account.

A higher education institution shall be obliged to obtain consent for restricted admission from the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, which shall be made public.

Article 42
(scientific, research and artistic work){

Higher education institutions shall organize and provide scientific, research and artistic work, and shall foster the development of professions.

Higher education institutions providing public services shall provide scientific, research and artistic work in accordance with the programme adopted and published by the senate of the higher education institution under the procedure determined for adoption and publication of study programmes.

Higher education institutions shall carry out basic and applied research, development and other projects in accordance with the act regulating research activities, and shall provide consulting and other services.

IV. NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Article 43
(repealed)

Article 44
(content of the national programme)

The National Programme of Higher Education shall:

- define the objectives of higher education,
- determine the areas of study, research and arts of national importance,
- define the activities required for development and effective work in higher education,
- define standards for the provision of higher education activities,
- define the framework funding required for implementation of the national programme.

The National Programme of Higher Education and the National Programme for Research shall be coordinated in the definition of research fields.

Article 45
(preparation of the national programme)

The National Programme of Higher Education shall be adopted by the National Assembly.

A draft national programme shall be designed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of professional guidelines drawn up by the Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Slovenia in cooperation with the Council for Science and Technology of the Republic of Slovenia.

Funding required for implementation of the National Programme of Higher Education shall be defined in the budget of the Republic of Slovenia.

Article 46
(implementation of the national programme)

The National Programme of Higher Education shall be implemented by public higher education institutions, other university member institutions, the student community and student halls of residence.

The National Programme of Higher Education shall also be implemented by higher education institutions, other university member institutions and student halls of residence pursuant to a concession.

Research organizations may also cooperate with higher education institutions in implementing the national programme.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall decide on the distribution of study programmes through which the National Programme of Higher Education is to be implemented.

Article 47
(awarding concessions)

A concession for the provision of public services in higher education shall be awarded by a decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia pursuant to a public tender.

A concession for the provision of the public service of student halls of residence shall be awarded by a decision of the ministry competent for higher education pursuant to a public tender.

The public tender shall state in particular: the subject of the concession, requirements for providing public services, the period for which the concession is awarded, the deadline for accepting bids, and the deadline within which bidders shall be notified of the selection.

The relations between the employer and the concessionaire shall be regulated by a concession contract concluded in writing.

The contract shall in particular regulate:

- the scope of provision of the public service,
- the start of provision of the public service,
- the deadline for cancelling the concession, which may not be shorter than the deadline required for the completion of studies extended by two years,
- the funds to be provided by the employer for the public service,
- the management and use of assets obtained from public funds.

V. COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Article 48
(establishment of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education)

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall establish the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education (hereinafter: the Council for Higher Education) as a consultative body.

The Council for Higher Education shall regulate its working methods by rules of procedure.

Article 49
(tasks of the Council for Higher Education)

The Council for Higher Education shall:

- advise in the preparation of professional guidelines and the national programme of higher education,
- advise in the drafting of and amendments to higher education legislation,
- advise in planning the development of higher education,
- provide its opinion on the national framework for qualifications,
- carry out other tasks pursuant to the law.

The Council for Higher Education shall cooperate in its work with expert councils for different fields of education and science and with the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Administrative and technical tasks for the Council for Higher Education shall be carried out by the ministry competent for higher education, which shall also provide funds for its operation.

Article 50
(composition of the Council for Higher Education)

The Council for Higher Education shall consist of a chairperson and 23 members. It shall comprise experts in the field of higher education, science and technology, industry, representatives of students of higher education institutions and higher vocational colleges, and representatives of social partners. Its members shall also include four rectors of universities selected by the rectors' conference, the president of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, president of the council of the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education and president of the Engineering Academy of Slovenia.

The Council for Higher Education shall be composed so that most fields of study and most science and research fields are represented therein.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall appoint the president and 16 members, who shall include:

- two higher education teachers or scientific workers from candidates proposed by higher education institutions,
- two higher education teachers or scientific workers from candidates proposed by public research institutions,
- one member from the arts section of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts from candidates proposed by the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts,
- two representatives of higher education or research institution staff from candidates proposed by representative trade unions in the field of higher education,
- one representative of higher vocational colleges from candidates proposed by the representative association of higher vocational colleges,

- four representatives of industry from candidates proposed by representative employers' associations,
- four representatives of students, one of them a higher vocational college student, from candidates proposed by the representative organisation of students in cooperation with student councils.

The term of office of the president and members of the Council for Higher Education shall be four years, while the term of office of student representatives shall be two years. The student term of office shall be terminated early if the student loses his or her student status.

Article 50a
(deleted)

Article 50b
(deleted)

Article 50c
(deleted)

Article 51
(deleted)

V.a PUBLIC AGENCY

Article 51a
(deleted)

Article 51b
(deleted)

Article 51c
(deleted)

Article 51č
(deleted)

Article 51d
(deleted)

V.b SLOVENIAN QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Article 51e
(formation of the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education)

The Republic of Slovenia shall establish the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (hereinafter: the Agency) as a public body for quality assurance in higher education and for development and advisory work in the field for which it has been established.

The memorandum of association published in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije* shall be adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall exercise the founder's rights on behalf of the Republic of Slovenia. The memorandum of association shall define the following:

- name and registered office of the Agency,
- purpose of the Agency,
- tasks or activities of the Agency,
- structure of the Agency bodies and the number and term of the members of these bodies,
- competencies of the Agency bodies,
- relations of the Agency towards its establisher,
- relations of the Agency towards other entities,
- funds provided by the establisher for the establishment and commencement of operation of the Agency;
- the method of financing the Agency,
- liability of the establisher for the obligations of the Agency,
- other issues important for the establishment and operation of the Agency,
- other issues that shall be regulated by the memorandum of association according to this Act or other legislation.

The Agency shall be independent and autonomous in its operation. It shall be bound by the principles of professionalism, impartiality, legality and political neutrality.

The Agency shall be a direct non-governmental budget user.

The Agency, acting under public authority, shall regulate legal relationships and decide in individual matters according to this Act. In the implementation of these tasks, the Agency shall issue the following:

- general acts issued for the exercise of public authority published in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*,
- individual administrative acts for deciding in individual matters of public law.

Unless provided otherwise by this Act, the Agency shall decide on individual rights and claims of customers under the procedure pursuant to the law governing general administrative procedure.

Article 51f (functions of the Agency)

The Agency shall:

- oversee the functioning of the system of quality assurance in higher education and post-secondary professional education,
- determine procedures and criteria for external evaluations and accreditations and other criteria and regulations,
- determine the minimum criteria for election to titles of higher education teachers, scientific workers and higher education staff at higher education institutions,
- carry out external evaluations of higher education institutions and study programmes, and of higher vocational colleges,
- carry out accreditations of higher education institutions and study programmes,

- issue consent to the transformation of higher education institutions and to modifications of compulsory elements of study programmes of independent higher education institutions,
- establish and update the register of experts,
- appoint expert groups for external evaluations and accreditations, organise their training and participate in it,
- make public the decisions of the Agency, evaluation reports, annual evaluation and accreditation reports and analyses of the Agency, which must be transparent and accessible,
- keep publicly accessible records of accredited higher education institutions and study programmes,
- cooperate with higher education institutions and higher vocational colleges, advise them and promote the implementation of self-evaluations,
- cooperate with international institutions or bodies for quality assurance in higher education,
- oversee the conformity of the Agency's operation with EU guidelines and international principles in the field of quality assurance,
- collect and analyse reports on self-evaluations and external evaluations of higher education institutions and higher vocational colleges,
- perform development tasks in the field for which it has been established,
- perform other tasks in accordance with this Act and the memorandum of association.

Article 51g
(bodies of the Agency)

The bodies of the Agency shall be: the Agency Council, director and appeal committee.

Article 51h
(the Agency Council).

The Agency Council is the highest decision-making body of the Agency.

Members of the Agency Council shall act in an expert, independent and autonomous manner and shall not be bound by the decisions, positions and instructions of institutions that appointed them or of other institutions.

In implementing their tasks and adopting decisions, members of the Agency Council shall observe the principles of preventing conflicts of interest and the principles of impartiality. To this end, they shall sign a special declaration that binds them to respect the rules provided by this Article.

The Agency Council shall consist of 11 members:

- three members shall be appointed by the rectors' conference,
- one member shall be appointed by the representative association of independent higher education institutions,
- one member shall be appointed by the representative association of higher vocational colleges,
- two members shall be appointed by the representative organisation of students in cooperation with student councils,
- one member shall be appointed by representative employers' associations by agreement,
- one member shall be appointed by representative trade unions in the field of higher education by agreement,

- two members shall be appointed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia through a public call for applications: one shall be an expert in the field of higher education or quality assurance therein who studies or works in the Republic of Slovenia, while the other shall be an expert in the field of higher education or quality assurance therein who studies or works abroad.

The Agency Council shall be constituted and shall start work when at least six members have been appointed.

The term of office of the members of the Agency Council shall be six years, while the term of office of student representatives shall be two years. The student term of office shall be terminated early if the student loses his or her student status. Individual members may be reappointed, but for a maximum of two consecutive terms. The chairperson of the Agency Council and his or her alternate shall be elected by and from the members of the Council.

Rectors and vice-chancellors of universities, deans, members of senates of universities, their members or independent higher education institutions, and directors of members of universities and other independent higher education institutions or other organisations providing higher education, or principals or directors of higher vocational colleges cannot be appointed as members of the Agency Council.

A Council member shall be dismissed early if he or she:

- fails to attend five sessions of the Agency Council,
- submits a resignation statement,
- no longer meets the conditions for appointment.

In the events referred to in the preceding paragraph, the chairperson of the Agency Council shall invite the institution that appointed the member in question to appoint a new member. The previous member shall be dismissed on the appointment of the new member. The term of office of the new member shall last until the end of the term of office of the member whom he or she replaced.

At the beginning of their term of office, the Agency Council members shall attend expert training in the field of work of the Agency Council organised by the Agency.

The Agency Council shall:

- appoint and dismiss the Agency director,
- appoint and dismiss members of the appeal committee and their alternates,
- determine procedures and criteria for external evaluations and accreditations, ECTS and other criteria,
- determine procedures and criteria for external evaluations of higher vocational colleges,
- determine the minimum criteria for election to titles of higher education teachers, scientific workers and higher education staff at higher education institutions,
- decide on the accreditations of higher education institutions and grant consent to the transformation of higher education institutions,
- decide on the accreditations of study programmes of higher education institutions and grant consent to the modifications of compulsory elements of study programmes of independent higher education institutions,
- determine criteria for the classification of experts in the register of experts for external evaluations and accreditations,
- appoint groups of experts for external evaluations and accreditations,
- determine procedures and criteria for the assurance of quality in the Agency's operations and for external evaluation of the Agency in conformity with EU standards,

- determine compulsory elements of the contract referred to in Paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 33c of this Act,
- determine other forms and conditions of higher transnational education,
- monitor EU guidelines and international principles in the field of quality assurance in higher education,
- cooperate in the preparation of the draft financial plan of the Agency and grant consent for the work plan and the report on work and operation,
- perform other tasks in accordance with this Act and the memorandum of association.

The Agency Council shall adopt decisions by a majority vote of all members.

Article 51i (director)

The director shall be appointed and dismissed by the Agency Council on the basis of a public call for applications in accordance with conditions and criteria laid down by this Act. The director shall be appointed for a period of five years and may be reappointed.

A person meeting the following conditions may be appointed as the Agency director:

- has at the very least completed education under the second-level study programme in accordance with this Act or education which corresponds to the level of education acquired under second-level study programmes,
- has at least ten years' work experience in accordance with the act governing the status of civil servants,
- has experience in the field of higher education or quality assurance in higher education,
- demonstrates an advanced knowledge of English,
- has leadership experience,
- has not been convicted in a final sentence of unconditional imprisonment of more than six months by a final judgment for premeditated criminal acts prosecuted *ex officio*.

If the director ceases to hold office, the Agency Council shall appoint, without a previous public call for applications, an acting director until the appointment of a new director, although for a maximum of six months.

The director shall be dismissed early:

- if he himself or herself so requests,
- if he or she no longer meets the conditions for appointment,
- if he or she commits an act defined as a grave disciplinary violation by the act governing the status of civil servants,
- if he or she performs his/her duties unconscientiously or unprofessionally, or it turns out that in terms of his/her working and professional skills he/she is not suited to the position of director,
- if the Agency fails to perform satisfactorily or if repeated errors or a grave error are made in its work.

The director shall:

- organise and direct the work and operations of the Agency,
- represent the Agency,
- oversee the implementation of the Agency Council decisions,
- submit the general acts referred to in the first indent of the fifth paragraph of Article 51e of this Act for publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*,
- ensure that the Agency operates in accordance with the law, the memorandum of association and general acts of the Agency,

- adopt general acts governing the work and operation of the Agency that are not under the competence of another body according to this Act or the memorandum of association,
- prepare the draft financial plan of the Agency in cooperation with the Agency Council,
- adopt the work plan of the Agency, for which he or she shall obtain the consent of the Agency Council,
- prepare the report on the work and operation of the Agency, for which he or she shall obtain the consent of the Agency Council,
- oversee the material and financial operation of the Agency,
- decide on the labour law rights of the employees,
- adopt the act governing internal organisation and job classification,
- perform other tasks in accordance with this Act and the memorandum of association.

The director shall submit the report on the work and operation of the Agency to the founder once a year, namely by 31 May of the current year for the previous year.

Article 51j (appeal committee)

The appeal committee shall be appointed by the Agency Council on the basis of a public invitation. The appeal committee shall consist of three members, each of whom shall have an alternate. The members shall elect from among themselves a chair and deputy chair. Alternates shall replace members in decision procedures in the event of their absence or exclusion.

Persons meeting the following conditions may be appointed committee members and their alternates:

- have at the very least completed education under the second-level study programme in accordance with this Act or education which corresponds to the level of education acquired under second-level study programmes,
- have passed the lawyers' state examination, and
- have at least ten years of work experience, including at least five years in a court.

The term of office of the chairperson and members and their alternates shall be four years. Individual members or their alternates may be reappointed, but for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

A member or an alternate of the appeal committee shall be dismissed early if he or she submits a resignation statement.

In the events referred to in the preceding Paragraph, the Agency Council shall appoint a new member or an alternate in accordance with this Article. The previous member or alternate shall be dismissed on the appointment of the new member or alternate. The term of office of the new member or alternate shall last until the end of the term of office of the member or alternate whom he or she replaced.

The appeal committee shall take its decisions by majority vote of its members.

Article 51k (complaint)

The appeal committee shall decide on complaints against Agency Council decisions in the procedures of accreditation of higher education institutions and study programmes. The appeal committee shall also decide on complaints against Agency Council decisions

concerning the granting of consent for the transformation of higher education institutions and for modifications of study programmes, and the granting of consent for contracts on the provision of transnational higher education.

A complaint against an Agency Council decision may be filed within 30 days of service of the decision.

The appeal committee shall decide on a complaint within three months of the date of the complaint being filed. If the appeal committee has upheld the complaint, it shall remand the case to the Agency Council. The decision of the appeal committee shall be final; however, an administrative dispute may be initiated against it.

Article 51l
(Agency staff)

Agency staff shall be subject to the regulations governing the status of public servants.

Article 51m
(funds for the commencement of operation and financing of the Agency)

The founder shall provide the necessary facilities and funds for the commencement of the Agency's operation.

The funds for the work of the Agency shall be provided from the national budget.

Article 51n
(remuneration of members of the Agency Council, appeal committee and expert groups)

Members of the Agency Council members, appeal committee and expert groups shall be eligible for the remuneration and reimbursement of their working expenses. The method and amount of remuneration and reimbursement shall be determined by the Agency Council.

The resources for remuneration referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be earmarked in the financing plan of the Agency.

Article 51o
(accreditations and external evaluations)

Compliance with the conditions for the performance of higher education activities and quality of higher education institutions and study programmes shall be checked by procedures of accreditation and external evaluation.

Accreditations in higher education shall be as follows:

- initial accreditation of higher education institutions that are being established (hereinafter: initial accreditation of higher education institutions) and study programmes,
- reaccreditation of higher education institutions and study programmes.

The initial accreditation and each reaccreditation of higher education institutions and study programmes shall be valid for a maximum of seven years. If the decision on

reaccreditation is adopted before the expiry of the interval for which the previous, initial accreditation or reaccreditation was granted, the period of validity of the accreditation shall start running again. The validity of the accreditation shall be considered to expire at the end of the academic year in which the period of the granted accreditation expires.

External evaluations shall be as follows:

- evaluation of higher education institutions and study programme implementation,
- extraordinary evaluation of higher education institutions and study programme implementation.

Article 51p

(initial accreditation of higher education institutions and study programmes)

After the receipt of a complete application for the initial accreditation of a higher education institution or a study programme, the Agency Council shall appoint an expert group.

The expert group shall prepare a report on the meeting of criteria for the initial accreditation of a higher education institution or the initial accreditation of a study programme within three months of the submission of the completed application at the latest. The report on the meeting of criteria for the initial accreditation of a higher education institution shall be sent directly to the Agency Council, while the report on the meeting of criteria for the initial accreditation of a study programme shall be sent to the Agency Council and the applicant for possible remarks. The applicant may submit the remarks within one month of receipt of the report.

The report on the meeting of criteria for the initial accreditation of a higher education institution shall be prepared by the expert group on the basis of submitted documents and inspection of the facilities where the higher education institution will carry out its activities.

In the case of initial accreditation of a study programme, the expert group shall carry out the inspection of the facilities where the higher education institution will carry out its activities if this is necessary for the full establishment of the actual situation.

The Agency Council shall decide on the initial accreditation of a higher education institution on the basis of the expert group report within three months of the preparation of the report at the latest.

The Agency Council shall decide on the initial accreditation of a study programme on the basis of the expert group report within three months of the expiry of the deadline for the submission of remarks to the expert group report.

In the procedure of initial accreditation, the Agency Council may:

- grant accreditation of a higher education institution or study programme for a period of seven years,
- reject an application for the accreditation of a higher education institution or study programme.

Article 51r

(reaccreditation of higher education institutions and study programmes)

The procedure for the reaccreditation of higher education institutions and study programmes shall be initiated by the submission of an application of a higher education

institution in accordance with the provisions of the fifth paragraph of Article 14 and third paragraph of Article 32 of this Act, continue with external evaluation and conclude with the decision on reaccreditation. External evaluation shall be carried out by an expert group appointed by the Agency Council.

Within three months of its appointment, the expert group shall prepare the evaluation report on the basis of the self-evaluation report of a higher education institution and other documentation detailed by the Agency and on the basis of the inspection of a higher education institution. The evaluation report shall be sent to the higher education institution, which may provide remarks within a month of its receipt. If the higher education institution provides remarks to the evaluation report, the expert group shall assess the merits of the remarks and prepare the final evaluation report within a month of the receipt of the remarks. If the higher education institution does not provide any remarks on the evaluation report within the time-limit, the report shall become final.

The evaluation report shall contain an assessment of the meeting of criteria for the accreditation and external evaluation of a higher education institution or a study programme and other components detailed by the Agency Council.

The self-evaluation report of a higher education institution, the final evaluation report of the expert group and any remarks of a higher education institution on the evaluation report shall be submitted to the Agency Council within seven days of the preparation of the final evaluation report at the latest. On the basis of the received documentation, the Agency Council shall decide on the reaccreditation of a higher education institution or a study programme within three months of the receipt of the documentation at the latest.

In the reaccreditation procedure, the Agency Council shall adopt one of the following decisions:

- reaccreditation of a higher education institution or study programme for a period of seven years,
- reaccreditation of a higher education institution or study programme for a shorter period not exceeding three years,
- no reaccreditation of a higher education institution or study programme.

The Agency Council shall adopt the decision referred to in the second indent of the fifth paragraph of this Article in the event of established deficiencies in the operation of a higher education institution or in the implementation of a study programme, and shall impose on a higher education institution a time interval for the elimination of such deficiencies. After the lapse of this time interval, the evaluation shall be repeated, on the basis of which the Agency Council shall decide again on the accreditation; in this process, it may reaccredit a higher education institution or study programme for a period of seven years or may not reaccredit a higher education institution or study programme.

Article 51s (re-application for initial accreditation)

In the event of rejection of the application for the accreditation of a higher education institution referred to in the second indent of the seventh paragraph of Article 51p and the third indent of the fifth paragraph of Article 51r of this Act, the applicant may reapply for the initial accreditation of this higher education institution after two years have elapsed since the service of the Agency Council decision.

In the event of missing the time limit for submission of an application for the reaccreditation of a higher education institution referred to in the fifth paragraph of Article 14

of this Act, the founder may submit another application for the initial accreditation of the higher education institution only after its removal from the register of higher education institutions.

In the event of the rejection of the application for the accreditation of a study programme referred to in the second indent of the seventh paragraph of Article 51p and the third indent of the fifth paragraph of Article 51r of this Act, a higher education institution may reapply for the initial accreditation of this study programme after one year has elapsed since the service of the Agency Council decision.

In the event of missing the deadline for the submission of an application for the reaccreditation of a study programme referred to in the fifth paragraph of Article 32 of this Act, a higher education institution may submit another application for the initial accreditation of the study programme only after its removal from the register of higher education institutions.

Article 51š

(extraordinary evaluation of higher education institutions and study programme implementation)

The implementation of extraordinary evaluation and reaccreditation of higher education institutions or study programmes shall be decided by the Agency Council.

The procedure for the implementation of extraordinary evaluation of higher education institutions or study programmes shall be initiated by the Agency.

With the exception of the initiation of the procedure, extraordinary evaluation shall be carried out by the same procedure as external evaluation; the same applies to the decision on reaccreditation on the basis of extraordinary evaluation.

Article 51t

(evaluation of higher vocational colleges)

The Agency shall also carry out evaluations of higher vocational colleges in accordance with the criteria and procedures determined by the Agency Council. The provisions of this Act regulating the external evaluation of higher education institutions shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to this procedure.

Article 51u

(formation of expert groups)

Expert groups shall be groups of experts for accreditations and groups of experts for external evaluations. Experts from the register of experts kept by the Agency shall be appointed to expert groups. They shall consist of at least three members, of whom at least one is a foreign expert and one a student.

In performing their tasks and adopting decisions in accreditation and evaluation procedures, experts shall observe the principles of preventing conflicts of interest and the principles of impartiality. To this end, they shall sign a special declaration that binds them to respect the rules provided by this Article.

Article 51v
(public records)

The Agency shall keep public records of the following:

- accreditations of higher education institutions,
- accreditations of study programmes,
- evaluations of higher education institutions and evaluations of the provision of study programmes and higher vocational colleges,
- contracts concluded and consent granted concerning transnational education,
- consent granted for the transformation of higher education institutions and changes to study programmes.

The public records of accreditations of higher education institutions shall contain the following:

- number and date of the accreditation decision,
- validity period of the accreditation,
- name of higher education institution,
- name and registered office or address of a higher education institution, and name and address of its separate units,
- academic field and scientific, research or artistic discipline for which a higher education institution has been established,
- name of founder,
- full name of the higher education institution's envisaged representative,
- date and number of decision on reaccreditation.

The public records of accreditations of study programmes shall contain the following:

- number and date of the accreditation decision,
- validity period of the accreditation,
- name and registered office and type of higher education institution which accredits the study programme,
- name and code of the study programme provided by the higher education institution,
- academic field (ISCED, Frascati) and classification under the standard classification of education (KLASIUS),
- study programme level,
- date and number of decision on reaccreditation.

The public records of evaluations of higher education institutions and study programme provision and of higher vocational colleges shall contain the following:

- date and number of the final evaluation report of a higher education institution, study programme or higher vocational college,
- date or period of implemented evaluation,
- name and registered office and type of evaluated higher education institution or higher vocational college,
- name and level of evaluated study programme,
- type of evaluation,
- date of any remarks of a higher education institution or higher vocational college on the evaluation report.

The public records of contracts concluded and consent granted concerning transnational education shall contain the following:

- date of consent to the contract concluded,
- period of validity of consent to the contract,
- name and registered office or address of the higher education institution responsible for the study programme,

- name and registered office or address of the higher education institution which provides the study programme in another country,
- name of transnational study programme,
- full name of the representative of the higher education institution which implements the study programme in another country.

The public records of consent granted for the transformation of higher education institutions and modifications to study programmes shall contain the following:

- date and number of consent,
- name and registered office or address of higher education institution,
- name and level of study programme for the modification of which consent was granted.

Personal data referred to in this Article shall be collected, processed, stored and communicated for the needs of quality assurance in higher education.

Article 51z (register of experts)

The Agency shall keep a register of experts containing the following personal data:

- name and surname of expert,
- professional or academic title,
- gender,
- tax identification number,
- nationality,
- information on permanent and temporary residence,
- information on education,
- information on employment and status of expert,
- professional, research or working field,
- information on qualifications and competences.

The register of experts shall not be a public record.

Personal data referred to in this Article shall be collected, processed, kept and communicated for the needs of quality assurance in higher education.

Article 51ž (storing records and documentation)

The records referred to in Article 51v and the register of experts referred to in Article 51z of this Article shall be kept permanently in accordance with special regulations. The provisions relating to the keeping, use and storage of personal data contained in the records under this Act shall apply also to documents serving as a basis for the collection of the relevant personal data.

VI. HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHERS, SCIENTIFIC STAFF AND HIGHER EDUCATION STAFF

Article 52 (teachers)

Higher education teachers shall be assistant professors, associate professors, full professors and lecturers.

Higher education teachers in professional higher education programmes shall also include lecturers and senior lecturers.

Higher education teachers shall be responsible for education, artistic and research programmes. In their work they shall follow and contribute to the development of science, art and the profession in the field for which they are elected, they shall independently develop certain areas of science, art and their profession, and they shall ensure the transfer of such knowledge.

Article 53
(scientific staff)

Scientific staff shall be scientists, senior scientists and scientific advisers.

Scientific staff shall undertake scientific and research programmes.

Article 54
(higher education staff)

Higher education staff shall be: assistants, librarians, expert advisers, senior professional staff, junior staff and instructors.

Higher education staff shall participate in the provision of educational, scientific, research and artistic work.

Article 55
(conditions for election)

The title of assistant professor, associate professor and full professor may be awarded to a holder of a *doctorate* who has demonstrated educational skills.

A scientific staff title may be awarded to a holder of a doctorate. An additional title of higher education teacher may be awarded to a scientific staff member who has demonstrated educational skills.

A higher education teaching title for artistic disciplines may be awarded to a holder of at least a second-level degree with recognised artworks who has demonstrated educational skills.

A senior lecturer title may be awarded to anyone who has completed at least a second-level study programme and who has demonstrated educational skills.

A lecturer title may be awarded to anyone who has completed at least a second-level study programme and who has demonstrated educational skills.

A title of higher education staff may be awarded to anyone who has completed at least a second-level study programme.

In addition to the conditions from the first to sixth paragraphs of this Article, higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff shall be obliged to comply with other conditions defined in accordance with the criteria for election to titles.

The criteria for election to titles of higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff shall be defined by the senate of the higher education institution in accordance with the law. The criteria for higher education institutions that are members of universities shall be determined by the university senate.

The criteria referred to in the preceding paragraph must be internationally comparable and published.

Article 56
(procedure for election)

Assistant professors, associate professors, senior lecturers, lecturers, scientific staff and senior scientific staff shall be elected for five years by the senate of the faculty, academy of art or higher vocational college.

Full professors and scientific advisers shall be elected by the senate of the university for an indefinite period.

Full professors and scientific advisers of a higher education institution which is not a member of a university shall be elected by the senate of the higher education institution.

Higher education staff shall be elected by the senate of the faculty, academy of art or higher vocational college for the period defined by the articles of association.

Prior to the initial election to a title or to election to a higher title, the senate of the university member shall be obliged to obtain the consent of the university senate.

Retired higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff shall retain the title which they held at the time of retirement.

Article 57
(detailed procedure for elections)

The procedure for election to a title of higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff shall be regulated in greater detail in the articles of association of the higher education institution in accordance with the law and the criteria for election.

Article 58
(withdrawal of title)

If a higher education teacher, scientific staff or higher education staff member fails to comply with the scientific and teaching obligations or to comply with certain conditions for election to a title, the senate responsible for election shall initiate a procedure for withdrawal of the title.

The provisions of the procedure for election to a title shall apply as appropriate to the procedure for the withdrawal of a title. Higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff must be allowed to explain their position.

Article 59

(judicial protection of rights)

An administrative dispute may be lodged against a decision issued in a procedure for election to or withdrawal of a title.

Article 60
(posts)

The posts of higher education teachers, scientific staff and higher education staff shall be publicly advertised and occupied within the intervals and in the manner defined by the articles of association of the higher education institution.

Article 61
(private higher education teachers)

A higher education institution may entrust the provision of individual parts of a subject or subject area to a private higher education teacher.

A private higher education teacher is a person who has been elected to the title of higher education teacher and is recorded in the register of private higher education teachers kept by the ministry responsible for higher education.

The minister responsible for higher education shall prescribe the procedure for entry in and removal from the register.

Article 62
(visiting higher education teachers)

Higher education institutions may invite distinguished teachers, scientists, experts and artists to participate in the provision of individual parts of a subject or subject area for a fixed term, without regard to the conditions for election to a title.

Article 63
(work and teaching obligations)

Direct teaching obligations during an organised study process in higher education provided as a public service shall amount to:

- five to seven hours per week for assistant, associate and full professors,
- nine hours per week for senior lecturers and lecturers,
- ten hours per week for assistants.

The direct weekly teaching obligations and their forms shall be determined by the rector of the university or the dean of an independent higher education institution by special regulation, regarding which the consent of the minister responsible for higher education shall be obtained.

If the direct weekly teaching obligation defined in the previous paragraphs is insufficient to provide study programmes, the competent body of the higher education institution may assign to higher education teachers or staff an additional weekly teaching obligation amounting to no more than:

- two hours for assistant, associate and full professors,

- three hours for senior lecturers and lecturers,
- four hours for assistants.

The rector of the university or the dean of an independent higher education institution shall determine by special regulation the direct weekly teaching obligations and no more than four hours of additional weekly teaching obligation for other higher education staff.

The additional weekly teaching obligation shall be charged in the same manner as the direct teaching obligation.

Relative to the number of students in a subject group, the direct weekly teaching obligations of assistant, associate and full professors, senior lecturers and lecturers may be reduced by at most two hours.

Assistant, associate and full professors, senior lecturers and lecturers also engaged in research and development work for their employer may have their direct weekly teaching obligation from the previous paragraphs reduced proportionately.

The criteria for reducing direct teaching obligations shall be defined by the rectors of universities and the deans of independent higher education institutions, who shall coordinate such obligations among themselves and send them to the representative trade union, which may issue opinions regarding such within 15 days of receipt. Rectors of universities and deans of independent higher education institutions shall be obliged to obtain the consent of the minister responsible for higher education regarding the criteria.

Assistant, associate and full professors, senior lecturers, lecturers, assistants and other higher education staff may, if funding has been secured, exceptionally undertake teaching, scientific, research, artistic or professional work for the same employer for at most 20% of their full working hours per week.

If all options to conclude employment contracts have been exploited and it is necessary to ensure uninterrupted provision of educational activities, a higher education institution may conclude a work contract in accordance with this Act and the Act regulating obligations to a maximum extent of one-third of the teaching obligations defined by this Act and for at most 10 months in the academic year. Anyone having labour relations in the area of higher education in accordance with this Act shall be obliged prior to concluding a work contract to submit the consent of their employer.

Article 64 (sabbatical leave)

For six years of work, higher education teachers shall have the right to in-depth study in the area of research activities for a maximum total duration of 12 months.

In cases referred to in the previous paragraph, the teaching obligation of the higher education teacher shall be reassigned, but shall not be increased by more than one third.

VII. STUDENTS

Article 65 (students)

A student shall be a person enrolled at a higher education institution on the basis of a call for enrolment and receiving an education under an undergraduate or postgraduate study programme.

Students shall prove their student status with a student identity card.

Article 66 (rights and obligations of students)

Students have the right to enrolment under equal conditions defined by law, the articles of association and study programmes. Thereby they:

- shall study at normal rates of progress and complete their studies under the conditions applicable on enrolment;
- may, due to non-compliance with obligations in their previous option or study programme, repeat a year or transfer to another study programme or option once during their studies;
- may study under multiple study programmes (parallel education), or under interdisciplinary or individual study programmes provided by one or more higher education institutions;
- may advance and complete their studies in less time than envisaged by the study programme.

Rules and procedures shall be regulated in greater detail by the articles of association of higher education institutions, particularly regarding:

- academic calendar,
- enrolment procedures,
- examination regime,
- advancement, including conditions for faster advancement,
- completion of education,
- transfers among study programmes,
- repeating a year and conditional advancement,
- continuation of studies after interruption,
- parallel, interdisciplinary and individual study,
- recognition of examinations and other study obligations completed at other higher education institutions.

The articles of association shall also define the following:

- types of documents issued to students on the basis of records referred to in Article 81 of this Act,
- the procedure to protect the rights of students,
- bodies responsible for managing procedures and decision-making,
- disciplinary responsibility and the rights and responsibilities of students in disciplinary procedures, and
- other rules pertaining to the rights and responsibilities of students.

Article 67 (student participation in management)

Students shall have the right to participate through their representatives in the work and administration of higher education institutions in accordance with this Act and the articles of association.

Representatives of the student council shall be invited to meetings of the bodies of a higher education institution.

Article 68
(student organization)

Students shall have the autonomous right to form a student community. The method of exercising this right shall be defined by law.

Article 69
(*other student rights and benefits*)

Irrespective of whether the study is provided full-time or part-time, students shall have the right to health care and other benefits and rights (e.g. food, transport, grants) in accordance with special regulations provided they are not in full-time employment or registered job seekers.

Students who are citizens of the Republic of Slovenia shall have the possibility of living in student halls of residence, other institutions and legal entities registered to operate student halls of residence, and through them also with private individuals renting out rooms; citizens of other countries shall have such rights under the conditions defined by special regulations.

Students who are citizens of the Republic of Slovenia and are in education away from their permanent residence shall have the right to subsidised transport by public means of transport.

Article 70
(cessation of student status)

Student status shall cease if a student:

- graduates,
- fails to graduate from the first-level study programme within 12 months of completion of the last semester,
- withdraws,
- fails to enrol in the next year or next semester,
- is expelled,
- completes postgraduate studies,
- fails to complete the second-level postgraduate study programme under the masters' study programme within 12 months of completion of the last semester,
- fails to complete the second-level postgraduate study programme under the integrated masters' study programme within 12 months of completion of the last semester,
- fails to complete third-level postgraduate studies within the intervals prescribed by the articles of association.

Notwithstanding the second and seventh indents of the preceding paragraph, student status shall cease at the end of the last semester if a student repeated a year or transferred to another study programme in the course of his or her studies.

In instances referred to in the second, fourth, seventh and eighth indents of the first paragraph and in the second paragraph of this Article, a student may on justified grounds extend student status by no more than one year.

Student mothers who give birth during their studies shall have the right to extend their student status by one year for each live-born child.

Article 71
(judicial protection of rights)

An administrative dispute may be lodged against the final decision of a body of a higher education institution regarding the acquisition or loss of student status and other matters pertaining to studies.

VIII. FINANCING

Article 72
(sources of financing)

Higher education institutions shall obtain funds from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia, tuition fees and other contributions for study, payments for services, grants, legacies, donations and other sources. Funds referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be used in accordance with the purposes for which they were obtained.

Article 73
(financing of public higher education institutions)

Universities and independent higher education institutions established by the Republic of Slovenia shall receive funding for:

- teaching and related scientific, research, artistic and professional activities, and library, information technology, organisational, administrative and other infrastructural activities (hereinafter: study activities),
- study-related interest activities of students, as defined in the annual programmes of the student council of a university or an independent higher education institution, and university sports (hereinafter: extracurricular activities);
- investment and major maintenance; and
- development and other important tasks defined by the rules adopted by the minister competent for higher education.

Study activity funds for the first and second levels shall be earmarked in the national budget as total funds for a university or an independent higher education institution (integral funding) with consideration of the field of study and the number of enrolled students and graduates of full time studies of the first and second levels.

Third-level programme studies may also be co-financed from the national budget.

Provisions on financing of public higher education shall be detailed by the regulation referred to in Article 75 of this Act in accordance with the national programme standards.

The funds for study-related extra-curricular activities of students shall be determined relative to the number of students and the point value for each student set for each budget year by decision of the minister competent for higher education.

In the process of drafting the national budget, universities and independent higher

education institutions shall submit to the ministry competent for higher education a financially evaluated annual programme.

Article 73a
(financing activities of private higher education institutions)

The Republic of Slovenia shall allocate funding for study and extracurricular activities to independent higher education institutions with concessions.

The Republic of Slovenia may allocate funding for development tasks to higher education institutions referred to in the preceding paragraph and to private independent higher education institutions providing state-approved study programmes via public tenders.

Article 73b
(subsidies for student accommodation)

The Republic of Slovenia shall subsidise student accommodation in public and private institutions and other legal entities registered for the activities of student halls of residence, and through such also private owners of rooms.

In subsidising the accommodation of students who are citizens of the Republic of Slovenia, their learning and academic success, material status, distance between their permanent residence and place of study, and their social and health status shall be taken into account.

Detailed provisions regarding subsidies under the previous two paragraphs shall be prescribed by the minister responsible for higher education.

Article 73c
(deleted)

Article 74
(other financing)

Funds from the national budget shall also be allocated for the following:

- investments and major maintenance of public student residences,
- operation of the Central Technological Library at the University of Ljubljana,
- grants or study assistance to aliens and Slovenians without Slovenian citizenship (note: this shall cease to apply on 1 September 2008; see Article 69 of ZŠtip),
- activities related to the development and learning of Slovenian, but also other purposes provided by the law or other regulations.

Article 75
(special regulation)

Financing under Articles 73 and 73a of this Act shall be regulated in detail by a special regulation adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.

Article 76

(higher education funds)

Higher education institutions which are legal entities may establish funds to manage their assets.

The management of such funds shall be the responsibility of administrative boards.

The number of board members, the composition of the board, the duration of mandates of board members and the operation of the funds shall be regulated by articles of association.

Article 77

(tuition fees and other contributions)

Tuition fees and other contributions for state-approved study programmes shall constitute income of the higher education institution and shall be determined in accordance with the regulation of the minister responsible for higher education.

The regulation referred to in the preceding paragraph may also define other contributions for other individual services of a higher education institution.

Tuition fees may not be charged to citizens of the Republic of Slovenia and citizens of the EU member states for education in state-approved undergraduate programmes provided as a public service unless their provision exceeds the standards defined by the National Programme of Higher Education.

Article 78

(allocation of surplus)

Any surplus of income over expenses shall be used for the performance and development of activities.

IX. SUPERVISION

Article 79

(supervision)

Supervision of the lawfulness of work and compliance with the conditions for the performance of higher education activities shall be undertaken by the ministry responsible for higher education, in accordance with special regulations.

Supervision of the appropriate use of funds for the provision of a public service shall be undertaken in accordance with special regulations.

Article 80

(quality assessment)

The quality of higher education institutions, study programmes and scientific and research activities, artistic activities and professional work shall be assessed by higher education institutions (self-evaluation) and the Agency (external evaluation).

The findings of self-evaluation reports and external evaluation reports shall be considered in the reaccreditation of higher education institutions and their study programmes.

X. RECORDS AND PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

Article 81

(Processing of personal data records of students and persons enrolled in training programmes by higher education institutions)

Higher education institutions shall keep the following records of students' personal data:

1. records of persons registered for enrolment, students enrolled, and persons enrolled in training programmes,
2. personal file,
3. records of examinations and other study obligations,
4. records of documents issued proving the completion of undergraduate and postgraduate studies, and training programmes.

The records referred to in points 1, 2 and 4 of the preceding paragraph shall include the following data:

1. the full name,
2. personal registration number,
3. enrolment number,
4. gender,
5. date, place, municipality and country of birth,
6. permanent and temporary residence and address for service (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
7. nationality,
8. school performance report and/or study performance report and prior education relevant for enrolment in a higher education study programme,
9. the highest level of prior education completed if higher than the prior education required for enrolment in the higher education study programme referred to in the preceding point (KLASIUS),
10. name of higher education institution,
11. name of study programme,
12. field of study or module,
13. study location,
14. method of study,
15. date and year of enrolment in the study programme,
16. year of study,
17. start and end dates of the student's status by academic year,
18. completion of study,
19. other data relevant for making decisions on eligibility for enrolment or progression to a higher grade, and decisions on the student's rights, in accordance with the law.

With respect to foreign students in the Republic of Slovenia who participate in international exchange study programmes, the records referred to in point 1 of the first paragraph of this Article shall, in addition to the data referred to in points 1, 2, 4–7, 10–14, and 16 of the preceding paragraph, also contain the following data:

1. start and end dates of the exchange,
2. number of students enrolled and ECTS credits allocated,
3. study programme at the higher education institution in which the student is enrolled:
 - name of higher education institution,

- town and country where the higher education institution is located,
- name of study programme.

In addition to the data referred to in the second paragraph of this Article, the records referred to in point 2 of the first paragraph of this Article shall also comprise the following data:

1. examinations passed,
2. study obligations fulfilled,
3. progression to a higher grade,
4. number of students enrolled and ECTS credits allocated for each academic year,
5. extension of the student's status, if applicable,
6. international exchange during the study programme:
 - name of the higher education institution that hosted the exchange,
 - town and country where the higher education institution that hosted the exchange is located,
 - name of study programme,
 - start and end dates of the exchange,
 - number of students enrolled and ECTS credits allocated by subject at the higher education institution that hosted the exchange, and the number of ECTS credits allocated at the higher education institution in the Republic of Slovenia;
 - type of international exchange, i.e. data on the international programme or agreement under which the exchange is carried out;
7. completion of or withdrawal from the study programme.

The records referred to in point 3 of the first paragraph of this Article shall contain the following data:

1. full name,
2. enrolment number,
3. name of higher education institution,
4. name of study programme,
5. field of study or module,
6. method of study,
7. year of study and academic year of first enrolment,
8. subject name,
9. examination filing date,
10. examination date,
11. whether the examination is to be taken for the first time or is a re-take,
12. marks scored or examination result.

In addition to the data referred to in the second paragraph of this Article, the records referred to in point 4 of the first paragraph of this Article shall also comprise the following data:

1. the number and date of the public document issued upon completion of the study programme,
2. type of public document proving completion of the study programme.

The data from the records referred to in points 1–3 of the first paragraph of this Article shall be collected for candidates enrolled in training programmes.

The personal data of students from the records referred to in this Article shall be processed by higher education institutions for requirements pertaining to their education and related scientific and research activities, artistic and professional activities, as well as library activities.

With respect to students registered for enrolment, the processing of data from the records referred to in point 1 of the first paragraph of this Article shall commence on the date of enrolment application and end on the date of enrolment in a study programme, training programme, or upon the termination of the complaint procedure. The data from the records referred to in points 1 and 2 of the first paragraph of this Article shall be treated as follows:

- with respect to students, the data will be processed as of the date of enrolment in a study programme and cease to be processed on the date of withdrawal from or completion of a study programme;
- with respect to students enrolled in training programmes, the data shall be collected as of the date of enrolment and cease to be processed on the date of withdrawal from or completion of a study programme.

With respect to students, the data from the records referred to in point 3 of the first paragraph of this Article shall be processed as of the examination filing date and cease to be processed when the examination has been passed.

With respect to graduates, the data from the records referred to in point 4 of the first paragraph of this Article shall be processed as of the date on which the study programme is concluded and cease to be processed on the date on which the public document proving the completion of the study programme is issued.

Students shall notify the higher education institution of any change to the data referred to in the second and fifth paragraphs of this Article within eight days of the change occurring.

The records referred to in the first paragraph of this Article may be kept in electronic format.

Article 81a

(processing of personal data records of higher education providers by higher education institutions)

Higher education institutions shall keep the records of higher education providers.

Higher education providers under this chapter of this Act shall be university teachers, scientific staff and higher education associates, all of whom participate in the implementation of higher education activities, regardless of whether they are in an employment or contractual relationship.

The records of higher education providers shall comprise the following data:

1. full name,
2. personal registration number,
3. gender,
4. date of birth,
5. data indicating whether the provider is retired and, if so, when retirement commenced,
6. researcher's code assigned by the Slovenian Research Agency,
7. number and date of the decision made or adopted for the awarding of the title,
8. the titles referred to in Articles 52, 53 and 54 of this Act,
9. field in which the was title awarded,
10. date title awarded,
11. expiry date of title awarded,
12. name of the higher education institution that conferred the title,
13. number of hours of obligatory direct teaching service by providers for each academic year, categorised by study programme and lecture, seminar, exercise, clinical exercise

and practical training, and the other direct teaching service obligations referred to in the second and fourth paragraphs of Article 63 of this Act carried out during the employment or contractual relationship,

14. mentoring of students pursuing doctoral degrees,
15. determination of payment/fees, gross pay, fees paid,
16. employer's consent to work for another employer,
17. consent for additional work,
18. consent for entering into an employment contract.

The personal data of higher education providers from the records referred to in this Article shall be processed by higher education institutions for the purpose of establishing compliance with the requirements for the performance of education, scientific and research activities, artistic activities, and for monitoring the work and teaching service obligations of higher education providers.

The data on higher education providers referred to in the third paragraph of this Article shall be processed as of the date on which the employment contract or job contract is entered into, and shall cease to be processed on the date on which the employment contract or job contract is terminated.

Higher education providers shall notify the higher education institution of any change to the data referred to in the third paragraph of this Article within eight days of the change occurring.

The records referred to in the first paragraph of this Article may be kept in electronic format.

Article 81b

(personal data records kept for student subsidised accommodation requirements)

The records referred to in this Article shall be kept by higher education institutions and student halls of residence, both of which are responsible for carrying out the procedures for subsidising student accommodation. The records shall comprise the following student data:

1. full name,
2. personal registration number,
3. personal identity document type and number;
4. gender,
5. date, place, municipality and country of birth,
6. nationality,
7. student's employment status,
8. permanent residence and address for service (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
9. telephone number and e-mail,
10. number and date of the decision issued in the procedure for exercising the right to subsidised accommodation,
11. number and date of contract entered into for subsidised accommodation and/or annex to the contract for subsidised accommodation, and the period of its validity,
12. the location where the student exercises his right to accommodation,
13. name of the higher education institution where the student is enrolled,
14. name of the study programme in which the student is enrolled,
15. study location,
16. study programme level and type,
17. year of study,

18. type of enrolment (first-time enrolment, repeat enrolment, change of study programme and continuation of study programme in accordance with the criteria for transfers and parallel enrolment),
19. method of study,
20. academic year of first-time enrolment in the current study programme,
21. academic year of first-time enrolment in any study programme,
22. number of years of subsidised accommodation, and a breakdown of study by academic year,
23. moving in and moving out dates,
24. interruption of study programme,
25. whether the student satisfies the criterion for an exceptional extension of subsidised accommodation,
26. exercising parental status and data on the second parent with whom the student shares accommodation in the student hall of residence (full name, single personal identification code),
27. whether the student has the status of a disabled person with a companion,
28. whether the student is the companion of a disabled person, and data on the student who is accompanied (full name, personal registration number).

With respect to foreign students participating in international exchange study programmes in the Republic of Slovenia, the records referred to in this Article shall contain the data referred to in points 1–6, 8, 9, 11 and 23 of the preceding paragraph, including data on the type of international exchange, i.e. data on the international programme or agreement under which the exchange has been carried out.

Higher education institutions and student halls of residence shall process the personal data from the records referred to in this Article, for the purpose of making decisions on students' entitlement to subsidised accommodation or the extension of subsidised accommodation, and for the needs of the ministry responsible for higher education regarding the payment of subsidies under Article 73b of this Act.

The data referred to in the first and second paragraphs of this Article shall be processed as of the moving in date and cease to be processed on the moving out date.

Article 81c

(records and analytical information system for higher education in the Republic of Slovenia)

For the purposes of determining students' eligibility to study and other rights financed from public funds, higher education policy planning and the monitoring of the higher education system, the monitoring of a network of higher education institutions and study programmes, public information, and for research, analytical and statistical purposes, i.e. for the implementation of statistical, social and economic and other research activities in the field of higher education, an electronic higher education database shall be kept in the Republic of Slovenia, which shall comprise data on higher education institutions and state-approved study programmes, including approvals concerning transnational education, and on training study programmes, persons registered for enrolment, persons who have applied for subsidised accommodation or the extension of subsidised accommodation, students and graduates, higher education providers and private higher education teachers.

The database referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be referred to as eVŠ. It shall comprise the following records:

- higher education institution records,
- study programme records,
- student and graduate records,

- records of persons registered for enrolment,
- records of persons who have applied for subsidised student accommodation,
- higher education provider records,
- private higher education teacher records.

The eVŠ shall also include electronic application and support regarding the selection procedure for

- enrolment applications for the study programmes within the eVŠ,
- subsidised student accommodation applications.

The eVŠ shall be kept in electronic format. The data from the records referred to in the second paragraph of this Article shall be processed by the ministry responsible for higher education, in its role as operator of the eVŠ.

Article 81č (eVŠ records of higher education institutions)

The eVŠ records of higher education institutions shall keep the following data on accredited higher education institutions in the Republic of Slovenia entered in the register of higher education institutions:

1. unique identifier for a university or independent higher education institution,
2. unique identifier of a member of the university,
3. tax identification number,
4. registration number,
5. name of higher education institution,
6. abbreviated name of higher education institution,
7. address of the main office of the higher education institution (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
8. name and address of separate units (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
9. type of higher education institution,
10. public or private status of the higher education institution,
11. accreditation decision, with its number and date,
12. decision on reaccreditation, with its number and date,
13. start and end date of the accreditation validity,
14. final evaluation report and type of evaluation,
15. decision on entry into or removal from the register of higher education institutions, with its number and date,
16. the areas of study (ISCED, KLASIUS), research and science areas (Frascati) or arts disciplines for which the higher education institution has been established,
17. name and address of the founders,
18. full names of the higher education institution's representatives,
19. date and number of the entry into and removal from the court register and the name of the court where the entry was made,
20. memorandum of association and date of its adoption and amendments,
21. articles of association of the higher education institution, and the date of its adoption and amendments,
22. type of diploma with changes, and the date and number of its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*,
23. other data and evidence required for monitoring the performance of the higher education activity.

With respect to university members, the data referred to in points 2, 5–9, 11–16 and 23 of the preceding paragraph shall be processed in the records of higher education institutions.

Article 81d
(eVŠ records of study programmes)

The eVŠ records of study programmes shall keep the following data on state-approved study programmes, including approvals concerning transnational education and training study programmes entered in the register of higher education institutions:

1. study programme unique identifier,
2. name of study programme,
3. unique identifier and name of the university or independent higher education institution,
4. unique identifier and name of university member,
5. name of separate unit,
6. study programme level,
7. whether the study programme is an interdisciplinary, one- or two-subject programme, educational or non-educational programme, or joint study programme, transnational education or training study programme,
8. type of education (ISCED, KLASIUS),
9. classification in the national and European qualification frameworks,
10. type of study programme,
11. study programme field (KLASIUS, ISCED, Frascati),
12. duration of study programme (in years),
13. number of ECTS credits allocated to the study programme,
14. field of study or name of study programme module, and year of study,
15. study programme syllabus with core subjects by individual subject with ECTS credits allocated, and a link to a specific field of study or module, and with a definition of the share of elective components in the programme,
16. study programme syllabus with providers by individual subject, with a link to a specific field of study or module for lectures, seminars, exercises, clinical exercises and practical training for each academic year,
17. general and subject-specific competences acquired by programme graduates,
18. enrolment conditions and selection criteria in the event of restricted enrolment,
19. criteria for recognising knowledge and skills acquired prior to enrolment in the programme,
20. assessment method,
21. conditions for advancement under the programme,
22. conditions for transfer between study programmes,
23. methods of study,
24. languages of instruction for the study programme or its components,
25. conditions for completing study,
26. conditions for completing individual parts of the programme, where applicable,
27. professional or academic title,
28. accreditation decision, with its number and date,
29. start and end date of the accreditation validity,
30. decision on reaccreditation, with its number and date,
31. final evaluation report and type of evaluation,
32. decision on entry in the register of higher education institutions, with its number and date,
33. envisaged enrolment quota for the accredited study programme by method of study,
34. whether the study programme has obtained a concession, the concession validity period, and the decision granting the concession, with its number and date,
35. academic year in which the study programme was provided for the first time,
36. date of completion of study programme provision,

37. statutory date for the envisaged completion of study programme provision,
38. names of higher education institutions participating in providing a study programme for joint study programmes, indicating the share to be provided by an individual higher education institution,
39. other data and evidence required for monitoring the performance of the higher education activity.

With regard to transnational education, the eVŠ records of study programmes shall include the following data:

1. approval of the contract entered into and date of approval,
2. start and end date of the contract approval validity,
3. name and main office or address of the foreign higher education institutions with which the higher education institution has entered into a contract for transnational education in the Republic of Slovenia,
4. name and main office or address of the foreign higher education institutions with which the Slovenian higher education institution has entered into a contract for transnational education abroad and the study programmes offered.

Article 81e
(eVŠ records of students and graduates)

The eVŠ records of students and graduates shall keep the following data on persons who have obtained the status of a student, in accordance with this Act:

1. full name,
2. personal registration number,
3. gender,
4. date, place, municipality and country of birth,
5. nationality,
6. permanent and temporary residence (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
7. data on prior education required for enrolment in the study programme (KLASIUS, year, country),
8. the highest level of prior education completed if higher than the prior education required for enrolment in the higher education study programme referred to in the preceding point (KLASIUS),
9. unique identifier and name of the university or independent higher education institution,
10. unique identifier and name of university member,
11. unique identifier and name of study programme,
12. field of study or module,
13. study location,
14. method of study,
15. date and academic year of enrolment in the study programme,
16. year of study,
17. start and end dates of the student's status by academic year,
18. date of withdrawal,
19. date of enrolment in the year of study and academic year in which the student is enrolled,
20. number of students enrolled and ECTS credits allocated by year of study and academic year,
21. study completion date,
22. extension of student's status, if applicable,
23. financing of the study programme from public funds, by year of study and academic year,
24. subsidised accommodation by year of study and academic year,
25. data on international exchange during the study programme:

- name of the higher education institution that is hosting or hosted the exchange,
- town and country where the higher education institution that hosted the exchange is located,
- start and end dates of the exchange,
- number of ECTS credits allocated by the higher education institution in the Republic of Slovenia,
- type of international exchange, i.e. data on the international programme or agreement under which the exchange is carried out.

With respect to foreign students participating in international exchange study programmes in the Republic of Slovenia, the following data shall be kept in the register of students and graduates:

1. full name,
2. personal registration number,
3. gender,
4. date and country of birth,
5. nationality,
6. study in the Republic of Slovenia: name of higher education institution, name of study programme, data on the field of study or module, location in which the study programme is carried out in the Republic of Slovenia, method of study, date and academic year of enrolment, year of study, start and end dates of the exchange and the number of persons enrolled with ECTS credits allocated,
7. study programme at the higher education institution in which the student was enrolled: name of the higher education institution and the town and country where the higher education institution is located.

The personal data of students or graduates from the records referred to in this Article shall be processed by the ministry responsible for higher education for the purpose of establishing students' rights under this Act and establishing students' rights under the law governing the exercise of rights to public funds.

Article 81f (eVŠ records of persons registered for enrolment)

The eVŠ records of persons registered for enrolment shall keep the following data on persons registered for enrolment in higher education study programmes:

1. full name,
2. personal registration number,
3. gender,
4. date, place, municipality and country of birth,
5. nationality,
6. permanent residence and address for service (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
7. telephone number and e-mail,
8. school performance report and/or study performance report and prior education required for enrolment in a higher education study programme,
9. the highest level of prior education completed if higher than the prior education required for enrolment in the higher education study programme referred to in the preceding point (KLASIUS),
10. type of study programme,
11. name of the higher education institutions indicated in the enrolment application,
12. name of the study programmes indicated in the enrolment application,
13. field of study or module,

14. location where a particular study programme is carried out, and the field of study or modules,
15. method of study of a particular study programme, and the field of study or modules,
16. other data relevant under this Act to verify the fulfilment of enrolment conditions, conditions for transfer, and conditions concerning restricted enrolment.

The enrolment application for higher education study programmes shall be submitted to the eVŠ through electronic registration.

Data on persons registered for enrolment in higher education study programmes shall be processed through the eVŠ using electronic registration for the purpose of the enrolment selection procedure.

Article 81g
(eVŠ records of applicants for subsidised student accommodation)

The eVŠ records of applicants for subsidised student accommodation shall include the following data on persons who have applied for subsidised accommodation or an extension to subsidised accommodation:

1. full name,
2. personal registration number,
3. tax identification number,
4. gender,
5. date, place, municipality and country of birth,
6. nationality,
7. permanent residence and address for service (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
8. employment status,
9. telephone number and e-mail,
10. location where the student intends to exercise his right to subsidised accommodation,
11. name of the higher education institution where the student is registered or enrolled,
12. name of the study programme for which the student is registered or enrolled,
13. study location,
14. study programme level and type,
15. year of study in which the student intends to enrol,
16. type of enrolment (first-time enrolment, repeat enrolment, change of study programme, continuation of study programme in accordance with the criteria for transfers, parallel enrolment),
17. method of study,
18. academic year of first-time enrolment in the current study programme,
19. academic year of first-time enrolment in any study programme,
20. breakdown of study by academic year,
21. number of years of subsidised accommodation by academic year,
22. interruption of the study programme by academic year,
23. school performance report and/or study performance report,
24. extraordinary performance and extracurricular activities,
25. material situation of students and their family members living in the same household, for the past calendar year: full name, personal registration number, tax ID number and tax office, status or type of employment of family members, type of income, information as to whether the student or family member is liable for the payment of personal income tax, and the relationship of the family members to the student,
26. whether the applicant qualifies for special social and healthcare conditions,
27. whether the applicant qualifies for the status of a disabled student entitled to a companion,

28. whether the applicant qualifies for the status of a student who is a child of someone who gave their life in the war for Slovenia or of a victim of a natural disaster,
29. whether parental status is being claimed and data on the second parent with whom the student would like to share accommodation in the student hall of residence, as referred to in points 1, 2, 6, 7, 11–15 of this paragraph.

The data referred to in points 23, 24 and 28 of the preceding paragraph shall not be processed with respect to students for the purpose of extending subsidised accommodation.

Applications for subsidised accommodation or extended subsidised accommodation shall be made by electronic registration to the eVŠ.

For the purpose of the selection procedure concerning student subsidised accommodation, data on applicants for subsidised accommodation or the extension of subsidised accommodation shall be processed in the eVŠ by means of electronic registration for student subsidised accommodation.

Article 81h (eVŠ records of higher education providers)

The eVŠ records of higher education providers shall comprise the following data:

1. full name,
2. gender,
3. personal registration number,
4. date of birth,
5. nationality,
6. researcher's code assigned by the Slovenian Research Agency,
7. the titles referred to in Articles 52, 53 and 54 of this Act,
8. field in which the title was awarded,
9. date title awarded,
10. expiry date of title awarded,
11. name of the higher education institution that conferred the title,
12. name of the higher education institution where the higher education is provided.

The personal data in the eVŠ records of higher education providers shall be processed by the ministry responsible for higher education for the purpose of determining compliance with the conditions for establishing a higher education institution and for the provision of the study programme, in accordance with this Act.

Article 81i (eVŠ records of private higher education teachers)

The eVŠ records of private higher education teachers shall be kept with a view to determining compliance with the conditions for entry in the register of private higher education teachers, in accordance with this Act.

In addition to the data referred to in the first paragraph of Article 81h, the eVŠ records of private higher education teachers shall also comprise the following data:

1. date and sequential numbers of entry into the private higher education teacher register,
2. date and application number for the entry in question,
3. date and number of the decision on the basis of which the entry was made,
4. permanent residence (house number, street, town, post code, municipality, country),
5. number and date of the decision on removal.

The personal data in the eVŠ records of private higher education teachers shall be processed by the ministry responsible for higher education for the purpose of determining compliance with the conditions for entry into the register of private higher education teachers, in accordance with this Act.

Article 82 (provision of data for eVŠ)

The data for the records referred to in Articles 81č and 81d of this Act shall be provided free of charge by the Agency or higher education institutions, and if the data are not at the Agency's disposal, by the ministry responsible for higher education and in the manner and in the form laid down in the regulation referred to in the seventh paragraph of Article 16 of this Act. The data referred to in points 1, 2 and 15 of Article 81č and points 1, 32 and 34 of Article 81d of this Act shall be determined by the ministry responsible for higher education.

The data referred to in points 1 and 4, with the exception of the date of birth, and points 5 and 6 of the first paragraph of Article 81e of this Act, and points 1 and 4, with the exception of the date of birth, and point 5 of the second paragraph of Article 81e of this Act, shall be obtained from the Central Population Register by the ministry responsible for higher education on the basis of personal registration number data. In the event that no personal registration number exists, the data referred to in these points shall be obtained, free of charge and in electronic format, by the ministry responsible for higher education from higher education institutions. The data referred to in points 23 and 24 of the first paragraph of Article 81e of this Act shall be obtained by the ministry responsible for higher education by itself, and all other data referred to in Article 81e of this Act shall be obtained, free of charge and in electronic format, from higher education institutions.

The data for the records referred to in Article 81f of this Act shall be entered by applicants for enrolment through the electronic registration of their enrolment applications for the higher education study programme using the eVŠ. With a view to ensuring the accuracy of applicants' identification data, the data referred to in points 1 and 4, with the exception of the date of birth, and points 5 and 6 of the first paragraph of Article 81f of this Act shall be obtained by the ministry responsible for higher education from the Central Population Register on the basis of the applicant's personal registration number data. During the application process for an applicant holding a qualified digital certificate, the data referred to in the preceding sentence and the applicant's data kept in the eVŠ shall be displayed during the completion of the electronic application. The data referred to in point 8 of the first paragraph of Article 81f of this Act on school performance and prior secondary and higher education that are relevant for enrolment in higher education programmes, shall be obtained free of charge by the ministry responsible for higher education from the central records of participants in school education or the National Examinations Centre using the personal registration number information, if it exists; alternatively, this may be obtained from the applicant.

The data for the records referred to in Article 81g of this Act shall be entered by applicants for subsidised accommodation through electronic registration using the eVŠ. With a view to ensuring the accuracy of applicants' identification data, the data referred to in points 1 and 5, with the exception of the date of birth, and points 6 and 7 of the first paragraph of Article 81g of this Act shall be obtained by the ministry responsible for higher education from the Central Population Register using the applicant's personal registration number data. During the application process for an applicant holding a qualified digital certificate, the data referred to in the preceding sentence and the applicant's data kept in the eVŠ shall be displayed during the completion of the electronic application. The data referred to in point 23

of the first paragraph of Article 81g of this Act on school performance and prior secondary and higher education that are relevant for determining eligibility for subsidised accommodation, shall be obtained free of charge by the ministry responsible for higher education from the central records of participants in school education or the National Examinations Centre using the personal registration number information, if it exists. The data referred to in point 23 of the first paragraph of Article 81g of this Act on study performance shall be obtained from higher education institutions free of charge by the ministry responsible for higher education.

The data for the records referred to in Article 81h of this Act shall be provided free of charge from higher education institutions by the ministry responsible for higher education and in the manner and in the form laid down in the regulation referred to in the seventh paragraph of Article 16 of this Act. With a view to ensuring the accuracy of identification data on higher education providers, the data referred to in points 1 and 5 of the first paragraph of Article 81h of this Act shall be obtained by the ministry responsible for higher education from the Central Population Register using the applicant's personal registration number data.

The data for the records referred to in Article 81i of this Act shall be provided by the ministry responsible for higher education from the application for entry into the private higher education teacher register and from the decisions issued by the ministry responsible for higher education during the procedure for entry into the private higher education teacher register.

Article 82a (data collection)

The data referred to in Articles 81č and 81d of this Act shall be collected for the higher education programmes prepared in accordance with the Higher Education Act (Uradni list RS, Nos 67/93, 39/95 – Constitutional Court Decision, 18/98 – Constitutional Court Decision, 35/98 – Constitutional Court Decision, 99/99, 64/01, 100/03, 63/04, 94/06, 59/07 – ZŠtip, 15/08 – Constitutional Court Decision, 64/08, 86/09, 62/10 – ZUPJS and 34/11 – Constitutional Court Decision).

With respect to students, the data referred to in the first paragraph of Article 81e of this Act shall be collected going back to the 1999/2000 academic year, and graduate data going back to the year 2000. The data referred to in point 25 of the first paragraph of Article 81e of this Act shall be collected going back to the 2009/2010 academic year.

With respect to foreign students, the data referred to in the second paragraph of Article 81e of this Act shall be collected going back to the 2009/2010 academic year.

The data for the records referred to in Article 81i of this Act shall be collected going back to 1994.

Article 83 (data storage)

The records referred to in Articles 81 and 81a of this Act shall be kept permanently, in accordance with the Rules governing the protection of documentary and archival material, with the exception of the records of persons registered for enrolment, all of which shall be kept until enrolment or the expiry of complaint procedures. In the event that a higher education institution ceases to operate, the data from the records referred to in this paragraph shall be handed over to its legal successor or, failing that, to the Archives of the

Republic of Slovenia, in accordance with the Rules governing the protection of documentary and archival material.

The data from the records referred to in Article 81b of this Act shall be kept in accordance with the rules governing the protection of documentary and archival material for a period of five years from the last academic year of subsidised accommodation. In the event that a higher education institution or a student hall of residence ceases operation, the data from the records referred to in this paragraph shall be handed over to its legal successor or, failing that, to the Archives of the Republic of Slovenia, in accordance with the rules governing the protection of documentary and archival material.

The records referred to in Articles 81č, 81d and 81i of this Act shall be kept permanently, in accordance with the rules governing the protection of documentary and archival material.

The records referred to in Articles 81e and 81h of this Act shall be kept for 40 years following their entry in the records; they shall then be stored anonymously.

The data from the records referred to in Article 81f of this Act shall be kept until their entry or the expiry of complaint procedures, and they shall then be stored anonymously.

The data from the records referred to in Article 81g of this Act shall be kept until the end of the academic year to which the call for applications for subsidised accommodation and the extension of subsidised accommodation refers, and they shall then be stored anonymously.

Article 83a (use of and access to eVŠ records)

Applicants holding a qualified digital certificate shall be allowed to access their application in the records referred to in Articles 81f or 81g of this Act until 30 October.

A higher education provider holding a qualified digital certificate shall have access to the data relating thereto in the records referred to in Article 81h of this Act.

The Agency may, by means of a qualified digital certificate, access the records referred to in Articles 81č, 81d and 81h of this Act and obtain data therein for the purpose of conducting the procedures referred to in Chapter Vb of this Act. The data from the records referred to in the preceding sentence may also be obtained by the Agency by connecting its information systems to the eVŠ, using a digital certificate, and through the mutual verification of identity and authorisation.

Higher education institutions may, by means of a qualified digital certificate, access the records referred to in Articles 81č, 81d, 81e in 81h of this Act, and obtain data relating to them therein. The data referred to in the preceding sentence may also be obtained by higher education institutions by connecting their information systems to the eVŠ, using a digital certificate, and through the mutual verification of identity and authorisation.

Higher education institutions may obtain data on the registered persons referred to in Article 81f of this Act for the purpose of conducting procedures relating to the call for enrolment by connecting their information systems to the eVŠ, using a digital certificate, and through the mutual verification of identity and authorisation.

Without prejudice to the preceding paragraph, public and private higher education institutions may obtain, for study programmes and by means of concession, the data referred to in Article 81f of this Act on persons registered for enrolment in undergraduate and integrated postgraduate studies, which are processed in accordance with the regulation referred to in the sixth paragraph of Article 40 of this Act, following the conclusion of the selection procedure and with respect to the registered persons who are admitted to their higher education institutions.

The Agency may obtain data from the records referred to in Article 81a of this Act for the purposes of carrying out statistical, social and economic and other research activities relating to the provision thereof.

The Agency and higher education institutions may anonymously obtain data from the records referred to in the second paragraph of Article 81c of this Act for the purposes of carrying out statistical, social and economic and other research activities relating to the provision thereof.

The data from the records referred to in Article 81f of this Act shall be processed for the purpose of conducting selection procedures for enrolment in higher education study programmes, in accordance with this Act.

The data from the records referred to in Article 81g of this Act shall be processed for the purpose of conducting procedures in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 73b of this Act.

The records referred to in the first, second, sixth and seventh indents of the second paragraph of Article 81c of this Act shall be made public, with the exception of personal registration number, sex, residential address, date of birth and nationality.

Article 84 (documentation)

The provisions relating to the keeping, use and storage of personal data contained in the records pursuant to this Act shall apply also to documents serving as a basis for the collection of the relevant personal data. Documents on previous education shall be returned to students when enrolment is completed.

The Higher Education Act – ZViS (Uradni list RS, no. 67/93) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

XI. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 85 (change of founder)

On the date of entry into force of this Act, the Republic of Slovenia shall become the founder of the University of Ljubljana and the University of Maribor, which shall continue to function as public higher education institutions.

On the date of entry into force of this Act, faculties, academies of art, further and higher colleges associated in the University of Ljubljana and the University of Maribor shall become members of the University of Ljubljana and the University of Maribor respectively.

Article 86
(act transforming universities)

The National Assembly shall adopt an act transforming universities no later than within two years of the entry into force of this Act. On the date of entry into force of such act, the memorandums of association of the university members shall cease to apply, except where provided otherwise by the transformation act.

Article 87
(bodies)

Until the election of new bodies of higher education institutions pursuant to articles of association adopted under this Act, the bodies defined by the current articles of association shall continue to operate.

Article 88
(coordination of articles of association and study programmes)

Until the adoption of university articles of association in accordance with this Act, the valid articles of association of universities and members thereof shall be used, provided they do not contravene this Act.

Higher education institutions transformed in accordance with this Act shall harmonise their articles of association with this Act and the transformation act within six months of the adoption of the transformation act.

The articles of association referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be adopted by the council of a higher education institution by a majority vote of all council members.

Higher education institutions shall harmonise their study programmes with this Act no later than within two years of its entry into force.

Students registered in study programmes referred to in the preceding paragraph may complete their studies under the conditions valid on their enrolment, but not later than within the interval laid down for completion of the programme, extended by two years, or for further-education study programmes, by the end of the 2001/2002 academic year.

Article 89
(assets)

On the date of entry into force of this Act, universities shall take over the management of assets acquired to perform higher education activities.

Inventories of the assets used by higher education institutions for the performance of higher education activities shall be made on the basis of the balance sheet as at 31 March 1991.

Article 90
(change of name)

Institutions and organizations using names from Article 18 of this Act which fail to comply with the conditions for the performance of higher education activities pursuant to this Act shall be obliged within one year of the entry into force thereof to adapt or change their names.

Article 91
(introduction of the *matura*)

The provisions of Article 38 of this Act shall enter into force for the generation completing secondary education programmes in the 1994-95 academic year.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 38 of this Act, optional *matura* subjects may be defined by study programmes as entrance requirements for secondary school students passing the *matura* examination in 1995 - 1997.

Persons who have completed secondary education by 1 June 1995 may enrol in the first year of higher education studies under the conditions in force until the entry into force of this Act.

Article 92
(tender for enrolment)

Until the issuing of the regulation referred to in the sixth paragraph of Article 40 of this Act, the provisions of the Rules on the tender for enrolment and implementation of the tender in directed education (Uradni List RS, no. 9/91, 7/92 and 11/93) shall apply.

Article 93
(deleted)

Article 94
(interval for establishing the Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Slovenia and the Quality Committee)

The Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Slovenia shall be established no later than within six months of the entry into force of this Act.

The criteria from points 2, 4 and 5 of Article 49 of this Act shall be determined by the Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Slovenia no later than within six months of the establishment thereof.

The Committee for the Quality of Higher Education shall be established no later than one year after the entry into force of this Act.

Article 95
(validity of titles)

Higher education teachers, scientific staff and staff who have acquired titles prior to the entry into force of this Act shall retain such titles until the election period expires.

Retired higher education teachers, scientific staff and staff who have acquired titles prior to the entry into force of this Act shall also have the right to use their titles.

Article 96
(deleted)

Article 97
(interval for the adoption of implementing regulations)

The minister responsible for higher education shall issue regulations from Articles 7, 16, 40, 61, 69 and 77 of this Act within six months of the entry into force of this Act.

Article 98
(harmonisation of records)

Higher education institutions shall be obliged to harmonise the management and protection of records containing students' personal data with the provisions of this Act no later than six months after its entry into force.

Article 99
(termination of ZUI)

On the date of entry into force of this Act, the provisions of the Directed Education Act relating to higher education (ZUI; *Uradni List SRS*, no. 11/80, 6/83, 25/89 and 35/89) shall cease to apply.

Article 100
(entry into force)

This Act shall enter into force on the fifteenth day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-A (Uradni list RS, no. 99/99) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 31

Universities and independent higher education institutions shall harmonise their articles of association with the provisions of this Act no later than six months after its entry into force.

Article 32

The National Assembly shall adopt an act transforming universities no later than within three months of the entry into force of this Act.

Article 33

The minister responsible for higher education shall adopt the forms referred to in Articles 12 and 26 and the regulation referred to in the last paragraph of Article 25 of this Act no later than six months after its entry into force.

Article 34

The provisions regarding the vocational *matura* referred to in Articles 13 and 15 of this Act shall start to apply to the generation that will complete secondary professional education programmes in the 2001/2002 academic year.

Article 35

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall adopt the special regulation referred to in Article 27 of this Act no later than six months after its entry into force.

Article 36

Until the entry into force of the regulations referred to in the last paragraph of Article 25 and Article 27 of this Act, public service in higher education shall be financed in accordance with Article 64 of the Organisation and Financing of Education Act (Uradni List RS, no. 12/91-I) and the Resolution on Criteria and Standards for the Performance of Educational Activities in Further and Higher Education (*Uradni List* RS, no. 39/92).

Article 37

Until the entry into force of the regulation referred to in Article 27 of this Act, higher education institutions shall be obliged to obtain consent for their post classifications from the minister responsible for higher education.

Article 38

The transfer of ownership of assets referred to in Article 4 of this Act and other property-law relations pertaining thereto, as well as the registration of ownership rights in the land register *ex officio* shall be regulated by a contract between the Republic of Slovenia and universities and independent higher education institutions within three years of the entry into force of this Act according to the state as at 1 March 2000.

Article 39

On the date of entry into force of this Act, the Republic of Slovenia shall become the founder of student halls of residence that provide public services on that day.

The memorandum of association of a student hall of residence that is established as a university member shall be adopted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, while if a student hall of residence is established as an independent public

institution, its memorandum of association shall be adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia within one year of entry into force of this Act.

Article 40

This Act shall enter into force on the fifteenth day after its publication in the *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*, while the provisions of Articles 2 and 28 regarding the status of citizens of European Union Member States shall enter into force on the date that the Republic of Slovenia becomes a full Member State of the European Union.

The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-B (Uradni list RS, no. 64/01) contains the following final provision:

Article 2

This Act shall enter into force on the fifteenth day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-C (Uradni list RS, no. 100/03) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISION

Article 9

Rectors of universities and deans of independent higher education institutions shall obtain consent for the special regulation referred to in the second paragraph of Article 63 of the Act from the minister responsible for higher education no later than by 31 December 2003, and for the harmonised criteria referred to in the eighth paragraph of Article 63 of the Act no later than within 60 days of the entry into force of this Act.

The minister competent for higher education shall issue the rules referred to in Article 73c within 30 days of the entry into force of this Act.

Article 10

This Act shall enter into force on the fifteenth day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-D (Uradni list RS, no. 63/04) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 43

The minister responsible for higher education shall issue regulations from Articles 7a, 8, 16, 32a and 73 of this Act within six months of the entry into force of this Act.

Article 44

The National Assembly shall adopt acts universities no later than within three months of the entry into force of this Act.

Article 45

Higher education institutions shall harmonise their articles of association with this Act within six months of its entry into force.

Until the election of the senates of universities and independent higher education institutions pursuant to articles of association harmonised with this Act, their tasks shall be carried out by senates elected in accordance with the valid articles of association.

Article 46

The Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education shall be appointed by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia by 31 December 2004 at the latest. On the first appointment, half of its members shall be appointed for three years.

Until the appointment of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education, its tasks shall be carried out by the Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Slovenia.

The first criteria referred to in the amended Article 49 of the Act shall be adopted by the Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Slovenia within three months of the entry into force of this Act.

Accreditation procedures initiated prior to the implementation of the new criteria shall be continued and completed under the new criteria.

Article 47

The act establishing a public agency referred to in Article 51a of this Act shall be adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia by 31 December 2005 at the latest.

Until the start of work of the public agency referred to in the preceding paragraph, the professional and technical tasks for the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education shall be carried out by the ministry competent for higher education.

The Council for the Evaluation of Higher Education shall be established within three months of the implementation of the instrument of constitution of the public agency.

Until the establishment of the Council for the Evaluation of Higher Education, its tasks shall be performed by the National Higher Education Quality Assessment Commission. The commission shall adopt the initial criteria for monitoring, assessment and assurance of quality of higher education institutions, study programmes and scientific and research, artistic and professional work within three months of the entry into force of this Act.

Article 48

Higher education institutions shall introduce educational study programmes and training study programmes under this Act gradually, at the latest in the 2009/2010 academic year. After the introduction of study programmes under this Act, the call for enrolment in current study programmes shall no longer be possible.

Students who enrol in higher education prior to the introduction of new educational study programmes shall study and complete their studies under conditions valid prior to the implementation of this Act, but by the end of the academic year 2015/16 at the latest.

Students referred to in the preceding paragraph who have the right to repeat and who cannot repeat a year under study programmes in which they enrolled because of the gradual introduction of new study programmes, shall continue and complete their studies under new study programmes.

The amended provision referred to in the third paragraph of Article 40 of this Act shall apply to calls for enrolment in the 2005/06 academic year.

Article 49

As a rule, graduates of the current study programmes for acquiring a university education shall be granted study obligations of 60 credits in enrolment in new two-year masters' study programmes in the same or similar expert field. The number of granted credits may not exceed 60. The provision referred to in the second indent of the fourth paragraph of Article 38a of this Act shall apply for enrolment in doctoral study programmes of graduates of the current study programmes for acquiring a university education that provide education for professions regulated by EU directives and which are valued at 300 credits or more.

The provision referred to in the third indent of the fourth paragraph of Article 38a of this Act shall apply to graduates of the current specialisation study programmes, if the total duration of their studies is less than five years, when they enrol in third-level study programmes; alternatively, such graduates may be subject to additional study obligations of 60 credits.

Graduates of the present masters' study programmes shall be granted study obligations of 60 credits in the doctoral study programme.

Article 50

This Act shall enter into force on the day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-E (Uradni list RS, no. 94/06) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

Transitional and Final Provisions

Article 13

The president and members of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education who perform their function on the day of entry into force of this Act shall perform it until the end of the term of office. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall appoint

additional members in accordance with Article 6 of this Act not later than two months following its entry into force.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall harmonise the Decree on Administrative Bodies within Ministries (Uradni list RS, nos. 58/03, 45/04, 138/04, 52/05, 82/05 and 17/06) with the seventh paragraph of Article 50 of the Act within two months of the entry into force of this Act at the latest.

The Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education shall appoint the senates referred to in Article 7 of this Act no later than three months after its entry into force.

The Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education shall harmonise its rules of procedure with the provisions of this Act, while its senates shall adopt rules of procedure no later than four months after the entry into force of this Act.

Until the implementation of the criteria referred to in the second and third indents of the third paragraph of Article 49 of this Act, the Criteria for monitoring, assessing and assuring the quality of higher education institutions, study programmes and research, art and professional activities (Uradni list RS, no. 124/04) shall apply.

Until the adoption of the rules of procedure and the rules referred to in the preceding paragraphs, evaluation procedures shall be conducted by the National Higher Education Quality Assessment Commission.

The resources for the operation of the National Higher Education Quality Assessment Commission shall be earmarked in the state budget.

The organisational and administrative services needed for the operation of the National Higher Education Quality Assessment Commission shall be carried out by the ministry competent for higher education.

Article 14

Higher education institutions shall harmonise the criteria referred to in the eighth paragraph of Article 55 with Article 9 of this Act no later than three months after its entry into force.

Article 15

In the Republic of Slovenia:

- the education level acquired under study programmes to obtain higher education adopted before 1 January 1994, and the education level acquired under study programmes to obtain higher professional education adopted before 11 June 2004, (hereinafter: the present study programmes) shall correspond to the education level obtained under first-level higher professional study programmes referred to in Article 33 of this Act;
- the education level obtained under the current university study programmes shall correspond to the education level obtained under second-level study programmes referred to in Article 33 of this Act;
- the education level obtained under the current higher professional education study programmes, including the completed specialisation study programme, shall correspond to the education level obtained under second-level study programmes referred to in Article 33 of this Act;

- the education level obtained under the current masters' study programmes and the education level obtained under the current university study programmes, including the completed specialisation study programme, shall correspond to the education level obtained under third-level study programmes referred to in Article 33 of this Act;
- the education level obtained under the current doctoral study programmes shall correspond to the education level obtained under third-level doctoral study programmes referred to in Article 33 of this Act.

Detailed provisions on the classification of education levels shall be adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in the regulation on the introduction and application of classification of education and training in the Republic of Slovenia.

Article 16

Notwithstanding the provisions referred to in Article 15 of this Act, graduates of the current study programmes shall continue their studies under study programmes referred to in Article 33 of this Act under conditions laid down by study programme by applying *mutatis mutandis* Article 38a of this Act as well as transfer criteria. Higher education institutions shall be autonomous in determining the conditions of transfer from the present study programmes to new study programmes. In this case:

- the provisions referred to in the first, second and third paragraphs of Article 38a of this Act shall also apply to graduates of professional education study programmes adopted from 1 January 1994 to 11 June 2004;
- graduates of the current specialisation study programmes who previously completed professional study programmes shall be subject to study obligations of 30 to 60 credits for enrolment in third-level study programmes;
- graduates of the current masters' study programmes or specialisation programmes who completed university study programmes in third-level doctoral study programmes shall be granted study obligations of at least 60 credits.

Notwithstanding the fourth paragraph of Article 38a of this Act, doctoral study programmes shall be accessible to anyone who completed a current university study programme.

Article 17

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall harmonise the special regulation from Article 75 of this Act with Article 10 of this Act no later than six months after its entry into force.

Until the beginning of funding under the regulation referred to in the preceding paragraph, the Decree on budgetary financing of higher education and other university member institutions from 2004 till 2008 (Uradni list RS, nos. 134/03, 72/04 and 4/06) and the Decision on co-financing post-graduate studies (Uradni list RS, no. 77/04) shall apply.

Article 18

Higher education institutions must harmonise study programmes adopted from 11 June 2004 until the entry into force of this Act with this Act no later than six months after its entry into force.

Article 19

As of the date of entry into force of this Act, Articles 47 and 49 of the Act Amending the Higher Education Act (Uradni list RS, no. 63/04) shall be deleted.

Article 20

This Act shall enter into force on the day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-F (Uradni list RS, no. 64/08) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 6

The Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education shall adopt an act regulating the internal organisation and job classification of the Secretariat no later than two months after the entry into force of this Act.

On 12 August 2008, the Higher Education Office of the Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter: the Office) as a body affiliated to the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology shall cease its activities, while the Council Secretariat shall begin its activities. Workers employed at the Office on this day shall continue their work in the Council Secretariat under the same labour law conditions. Budget funds earmarked for the Office's operation in 2008 shall be earmarked for the Council Secretariat's operation as of 12 August 2008.

The Council Secretariat's director shall be appointed on the basis of a public advertisement no later than six months after the entry into force of the provisions referred to in Article 4 of this Act. Until the appointment, the director's tasks shall be carried out by the worker in charge of the Office on 11 August 2008.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall provide material and financial conditions for the start of work and operation of the Council Secretariat.

Article 7

Graduates of university study programmes adopted before 11 June 2004, who enrolled in a second-level masters' study programme referred to in Article 33 of the Act in the 2005/06 academic year, shall have the right to enrol in masters' and doctoral study programmes adopted before 11 June 2004 in the 2008/09 academic year regardless of the enrolment quota.

The competent body of a higher education institution shall acknowledge completed study obligations for candidates referred to in the preceding paragraph considering the suitability, extent and level of demand of the skills acquired in the previous study programme, and enable them to enrol in the next year of the study programme if they meet the required conditions; in this process, the criteria for recognising knowledge and skills acquired prior to enrolment in the programme and the criteria for transfers between study programmes shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. The completed study obligations of candidates referred to in the

preceding paragraph shall also be granted when the enrolment in masters' and doctoral study programmes adopted prior to 11 June 2004 shall no longer be possible.

Studies for candidates referred to in the first paragraph of this Article shall be co-financed according to the regulations concerning the co-financing of postgraduate studies, whereby higher education institutions shall consider the already paid fees for second-level study programmes referred to in Article 33 of the Act in enrolment in the study programme referred to in the first paragraph of this Article.

Article 8

Upon the establishment of an international association of universities connected with the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the University Center for Euro-Mediterranean Studies public institute shall carry out expert and administrative tasks required for the commencement of its operation.

Article 9

As of the day of the entry into force of Article 4 this Act, the word "are" in the first paragraph of Article 15a of the Decree on Administrative Bodies within Ministries (Uradni list RS, nos. 58/03, 45/04, 138/04, 52/05, 82/05, 17/06, 132/06 and 41/07) shall be replaced by the word "is", while the second indent and the third paragraph shall be deleted.

Article 10

This Act shall enter into force on the day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*, and the provisions referred to in Article 4 and 5 of this Act shall be applied as from 12 August 2008.

The Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-G (Uradni list RS, no. 86/09) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

Transitional and Final Provisions

Article 18

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall establish the Council for Higher Education in accordance with Article 11 of this Act by 11 May 2010.

On 28 February 2010, the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education referred to in Article 48 of this Act shall cease its activities in the composition and in the framework of competences held until the entry into force of this Act.

Article 19

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall adopt the memorandum of association of the Agency referred to in the second paragraph of Article 51e of this Act by 31 December 2009. The Agency shall start to operate on 1 March 2010.

The Agency Council shall be constituted by 1 March 2010. Upon the constitution of the Agency Council, half of its members who are not students shall be granted a three-year term of office. Members with three-year terms of office shall be determined by the Agency Council by lot. After the expiry of their terms of office, the appointment of new members shall be carried out according to Article 51h of this Act.

The Agency Council shall determine the procedures and criteria referred to in Article 51h of this Act by 1 May 2010.

The Agency Council shall appoint the Agency director no later than six months after its constitution. Pending the appointment of the Agency director, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall appoint an acting director.

The Agency Council shall appoint an appeals committee according to Article 51j of this Act by 1 May 2010.

Article 20

The founder must attach the memorandum of association and the decision on the appointment of an acting director to the request for the entry of the Agency in the register of companies.

Article 21

The Secretariat of the Republic of Slovenia for higher education shall cease its activities on 28 February 2010. Workers employed at the Secretariat of the Republic of Slovenia for higher education on this day shall continue their work at the Agency under the same labour law conditions.

Equipment, archives, records and documentation of the Secretariat of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education shall be transferred to the Agency on 1 March 2010.

Article 22

The Agency may be included in the budget as a direct user in the 2011 budget. Until then, the Agency's operations shall be funded from the financial perspective of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education as a direct user.

Article 23

The provisions referred to in Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of this Act, in Article 51f, in the sixth, seventh, ninth, tenth and fourteenth indents of the eleventh paragraph of Article 51h, in Articles 51k, 51o, 51p, 51r, 51s, 51š, 51t, 51u, 51v, 51z and 51ž of the Act, and in Articles 16 and 17 of this Act shall enter into force on 1 May 2010.

Applications in accreditation, evaluation and habilitation procedures in accordance with the Higher Education Act (Uradni list RS, no. 119/06 – official consolidated text, 59/07 – ZŠtip, 15/08 – CC decision and 64/08) shall be filed up until 31 December 2009 with the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education. After termination of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education, they shall be decided on by the Agency Council.

The procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be subject to provisions referred to in Articles 14, 16, 32, 32a, 33b, 39, 48, 49, 50, 50a, 50b, 50c, 51, 56 and 80 of the Higher Education Act (Uradni list RS, no. 119/06 – official consolidated text, 59/07 – Zštip, 15/08 – CC decision and 64/08) and the ensuing regulations of the minister competent for higher education, and to the acts of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education issued before the entry into force of this Act.

Applications in procedures according to this Act shall be filed from 1 May 2010.

For higher education institutions and study programmes that are state-approved on the day of the entry into force of this Act, their compliance with conditions for the implementation of higher education activity and their quality in accreditation and external evaluation procedures shall be checked in accordance with this Act.

If more than seven years have elapsed from the finality of an expert opinion of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education concerning a higher education institution on 1 May 2010, the higher education institution shall file an application for the reaccreditation procedure in accordance with this Act by 1 November 2010 at the latest.

Notwithstanding the time limits for the implementation of the procedure referred to in Article 51r of the Act, the Agency shall carry out reaccreditation procedures for higher education institutions referred to in the preceding paragraph in accordance with its work plan, but by 31 December 2012 at the latest.

An application for a reaccreditation procedure is not required for study programmes accredited prior to 11 June 2004.

If less than seven years have elapsed from the finality of an expert opinion of the Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Higher Education concerning a higher education institution on 1 May 2010, the higher education institution shall file an application for the procedure of reaccreditation of a higher education institute or study programme in accordance with this Act. The same applies to study programmes accredited after 11 June 2004.

Article 24

This Act shall enter into force on the fifteenth day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-H (Uradni list RS, no. 78/11) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 8

The data from the records referred to in Articles 81f and 81g of this Act shall be collected as of the 2012/2013 academic year. The data from the records referred to in Article 81h of this Act shall be collected as of the 2011/2012 academic year.

The records referred to in the first, second and third indents of the second paragraph of Article 81c of this Act shall be established no later than by 31 December 2011.

The records referred to in the sixth and seventh indents of the second paragraph of Article 81c of this Act shall be established by 30 June 2012.

The applications referred to in the third paragraph of Article 81c of this Act shall be used for the first time in the 2012/2013 academic year.

Article 9

Notwithstanding the provisions of the first paragraph of Article 82a of this Act, the data referred to in points 1–8, 10–12, 27–29, 32, 34 and 38 of the first paragraph of Article 81d of the Act shall be the minimum collected for the study programmes adopted prior to 11 June 2004 and for the period until the 2010/2011 academic year.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the first paragraph of Article 82a of this Act, for those study programmes adopted after 11 June 2004 and for the period until the 2010/2011 academic year, the data referred to in point 16 of the first paragraph of Article 81d of this Act shall not be collected.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the second paragraph of Article 82a of this Act, the data referred to in points 1–7, 9–12, 14–18 and 21 of the first paragraph of Article 81e of this Act shall be the minimum collected with respect to students for the period until the 2010/2011 academic year and with respect to graduates for the period until 2011.

Article 10

Higher education institutions shall harmonise their articles of association and other internal acts with Articles 81, 81a, 81b and 83 of this Act within three months of the day on which this Act enters into force.

Student halls of residence shall harmonise their articles of association and other internal acts with Articles 81b and 83 of this Act within three months of the day on which this Act enters into force.

Article 11

Records referred to in Articles 81 and 81a of the Higher Education Act (Uradni list RS, no. 119/06 – official consolidated text, 59/07 – ZŠtip, 15/08 – CC decision, 64/08, 86/09, 62/10 – ZUPJS and 34/11 – CC decision; hereinafter: ZViS) shall be harmonised with the provisions of this Act by higher education institutions within six months of this Act entering into force and, for the first time, for the 2011/2012 academic year.

The higher education institutions and student halls of residence that conduct the procedures for subsidising student accommodation shall establish the records referred to in Article 81b of the Higher Education Act (ZViS) in accordance with the provisions of this Act for the 2012/2013 academic year.

Article 12

The minister responsible for higher education shall harmonise the Rules on pre-enrolment announcement and enrolment in higher education (Uradni list RS, Nos 7/10 and

3/11), Rules on subsidised accommodation of students (Uradni list RS, Nos 22/01, 35/06, 75/08 and 97/10) and Rules on the register of higher education institutions (Uradni list RS, No 46/05) with this Act not later than 60 days following the entry into force of this Act.

Article 13

This Act shall enter into force on the fifteenth day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

Fiscal Balance Act – ZUJF (Uradni list RS, no. 40/12) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

Article 216

The sixth paragraph of Article 32 of this Act shall apply for calls for enrolment in the 2013/14 academic year.

Article 217

The procedures of the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education concerning the applications of universities in the procedures of granting consent for modifications to compulsory elements of study programmes initiated prior to the entry into force of this Act shall be considered suspended.

Article 218

The Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education shall harmonise the Criteria for the Accreditation and Evaluation of Higher Education Institutions and Study Programmes with the provisions of this Act not later than 30 days after its entry into force.

Article 219

The provisions referred to in Article 70 of the Act shall enter into force in the 2012/2013 academic year.

The second paragraph of Article 70 of the Act shall not apply to students enrolled in first-level or second-level study programmes in the 2012/2013 academic year who exercised the rights referred to in the second indent of the first paragraph of Article 66 of the Act before the end of the 2011/2012 academic year.

Until the entry into force of the provision referred to in the first paragraph of this Article, Article 70 of the Higher Education Act (Uradni list RS, no. 31/12 - official consolidated text) shall apply.

Article 220

Higher education institutions shall harmonise their articles of association with the provisions of this Act not later than 90 days after its entry into force.

Article 251
(entry into force)

This Act shall enter into force on the day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.

Act Amending the Higher Education Act – ZViS-I (Uradni list RS, no. 109/12) contains the following transitional and final provisions:

Transitional and Final Provisions

Article 9

The accreditation of higher education institutions and study programmes that are in the procedure of reaccreditation on the day of the entry into force of this Act shall be valid until the finality of the new decision on reaccreditation, notwithstanding the date of the filed application.

Article 10

The Agency shall harmonise the criteria regulating the accreditation and external evaluation of higher education institutions and study programmes with the provisions of this Act no later than 30 days after its entry into force.

The Agency shall harmonise the criteria regulating transnational higher education with the provisions of this Act not later than 30 days after its entry into force.

Article 11

Procedures concerning applications for issuing consent for the contract on the implementation of transnational higher education filed until the entry into force of this Act shall be completed according to the current regulations.

Article 12

This Act shall enter into force on the day following its publication in *Uradni list Republike Slovenije*.