

Table of Contents

Preface	11
List of Abbreviations	12
Chapter 1.	
Slovak Constitutional History	13
1.1 The Period of the Constitution of the Czechoslovak Republic of 1920	13
1.2 The Period of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic of 1939	17
1.3 The Period of the Provisional Czechoslovak government-in-exile	18
1.4 The Period of the restored Czechoslovakia, 1945–1948	19
1.5 The Period of the Constitution of Czechoslovak Republic of 1948	20
1.6 The Period of the Constitution of the Czechoslovak Socialistic Republic of 1960	21
1.7 The Federal Period of the Czechoslovak Socialistic Republic	23
1.8 The Period of Transitional Constitutional System, 1989–1992	25
1.9 The Constitution of the Slovak Republic of 1992	29
Chapter 2.	
Form of Government	30
2.1 National Sovereignty	30
2.2 The Principle of Democracy	30
2.3 Rule of Law	31
2.4 Separation of Powers	33

Chapter 3.		
State Territory		34
3.1	General	34
3.2	Constitutional Regulation	34
3.3	Delimitation of Borders	35
3.4	Administrative division	36
Chapter 4.		
Citizenship, Electoral System and Referendum		37
4.1	Citizenship	37
4.1.1	Obtaining Citizenship	37
<i>I. Birth</i>		37
<i>II. Adoption</i>		38
<i>III. Naturalization</i>		38
4.1.2	Loss of Slovak Citizenship	40
4.1.3	Relevance of Citizenship	42
4.1.4	Derived Citizenship of the European Union	43
4.2	Electoral system	43
4.2.1	Electoral Constituency and Polling Districts ...	44
4.2.2	Electoral Bodies	44
4.2.3	Submission and Registration of Lists of Candidates	45
4.2.4	Rules of the Election Process	45
4.2.5	Results and Allocation of Seats	46
4.3	Referendum	47
4.3.1	General	47
4.3.2	Slovak Citizens' Small Inclination towards Referenda	50
Chapter 5.		
Legislature		56
5.1	National Council of the Slovak Republic	56
5.2	Members of Parliament (MPs)	57

5.3	Official Authorities and Committees of the National Council	61
5.3.1	Speaker and Deputy-Speakers	61
5.3.2	Committees	61
5.4	Powers of the National Council	62
5.4.1	Legislative powers	62
5.4.2	Supervisory powers	62
	<i>A. Reports</i>	62
	<i>B. Interpellations</i>	62
	<i>C. Question period</i>	63
	<i>D. Initiatives and Observations of Members</i>	63
	<i>E. Disciplinary proceedings</i>	63
5.5	Legislative Process	63
5.5.1	Initiation of Bills	63
5.5.2	First Reading	64
5.5.3	Second Reading	64
5.5.4	Third Reading	66
5.5.5	Signature of Bills, Presidential Veto, and Promulgation of Bills	66
Chapter 6.		
	The Executive	68
6.1	The President of the Slovak Republic	68
6.1.1	Elections of the President	69
6.1.2	Recall and Prosecution of the President	70
6.1.3	Incompatibility	70
6.1.4	Legal Status and Powers	71
6.2	Government of the Slovak Republic	73
6.2.1	Accountability of the Government	74
6.2.2	Incompatibility of Government Members	75
6.2.3	Powers of the Government	75
	<i>I. Regulatory powers</i>	75
	<i>II. National Defence and Foreign Affairs</i>	75
	<i>III. Powers regarding Parliament</i>	76
	<i>IV. Powers regarding the Judiciary</i>	76
6.2.4	Working of the Government	76

Chapter 7.		
The Judiciary		77
7.1	Basic Constitutional Principles of Judiciary	77
7.2	Judicial Organization	79
7.2.1	The Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic	79
A.	<i>Organization of the Constitutional Court</i>	81
B.	<i>Judicial Review</i>	81
1.	<i>Compatibility issues</i>	81
2.	<i>Jurisdiction dispute issues</i>	84
3.	<i>Constitutional complaints</i>	84
4.	<i>Further issues</i>	85
7.2.2	Common Courts	86
A.	<i>Organization of Courts</i>	87
B.	<i>Working</i>	88
C.	<i>The Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic</i>	89
D.	<i>The Specialized Criminal Court</i>	90
7.3	The Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic	91
Chapter 8.		
Further Constitutional Authorities		93
8.1	The Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic	93
8.1.1	Attorney General	93
8.1.2	Organization	93
8.2	The Public Protector of Rights (Ombudsman)	94
8.3	The Supreme Audit Office of the Slovak Republic ...	95
8.4	The National Bank of Slovakia	97
8.5	The Fiscal Responsibility Council	98
Chapter 9.		
Territorial Self-administration		99
9.1	Municipalities	99
9.1.1	Legal Status	99
9.1.2	Municipality Bodies	100
9.1.3	Financing	101

9.1.4	Control	101
9.1.5	Cooperation	102
9.2	Higher Territorial Units	102
9.2.1	Legal Status	102
9.2.2	Territorial Self-administrative Bodies	103
9.2.3	Financing	103
9.2.4	Control	104
9.2.5	Cooperation	104
Chapter 10.		
Fundamental Rights and Liberties		105
10.1	General	105
10.2	Equality	107
10.3	Fundamental Rights and Freedoms in the Constitution	108
10.3.1	The Capacity to Possess Rights	108
10.3.2	The Right to Life	108
10.3.3	The Right to Privacy	111
10.3.4	Prohibition of Torture or Any Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Humiliating Treatment or Punishment	112
10.3.5	The Right to Personal Freedom	112
10.3.6	The Prohibition of Forced Labour or Services	113
10.3.7	The Right to the Preservation of Human Dignity, Personal Honour, Good Reputation, and the Protection of the Name of an Individual	114
10.3.8	The Right to Own Property	115
10.3.9	Inviolability of the Home	116
10.3.10	The Privacy of Letters and Secrecy of Mailed Messages and Other Written Documents, and the Protection of Personal Data	117
10.3.11	The Freedom of Movement and the Right of Abode	117
10.3.12	Freedoms of Thought, Conscience, Religious Creed and Faith	117

10.4	Political Rights in the Constitution	118
10.4.1	The Freedom of Speech and the Right to Information	118
10.4.2	The Right of Petition	119
10.4.3	The Right to Peaceful Assembly	120
10.4.4	The Right to Freely Associate	120
10.4.5	The Right to Participate in the Administration of Public Affairs	121
10.4.6	The Right to Put Up Resistance	121
10.5	Rights of National Minorities and Ethnic Groups ...	121
10.6	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	122
10.6.1	Economic Rights	123
10.6.2	The Right to Just and Satisfying Working Conditions	123
10.6.3	The Right to Form Trade Unions	124
10.6.4	The Right to Strike	125
10.6.5	Social Rights of Women, Juveniles, and Other Categories of People	125
10.6.6	Social Rights of Citizens in Old Age and Other Situations	126
10.6.7	The Right to the Protection of Health	126
10.6.8	Constitutional Safeguards Related to the Family	127
10.6.9	The Right to Education	127
10.6.10	Freedom of Scientific Research and in Art ...	127
10.7	The Right to the Protection of the Environment and Cultural Heritage	128
	Constitution of the Slovak Republic	129
	State Symbols	183
	Selected Bibliography	185
	Index	188
	About the Author	192