

The Act
of 4 December 1963 No. 97 Collection of Laws
on Private International Law and Rules of Procedure
Relating Thereto

as amended by Act No. 158/1969, Act No. 234/1992, Act 264/1992 and Act No. 48/1996
Collection of Laws

The National Assembly of the Slovak Republic has passed the following Act:

INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

Section 1

The Purpose of the Act

The purpose of the present Act is to determine which law shall govern civil, family, labour and other similar relations with an international element, to regulate the legal status of aliens, as well as to set up the procedure before Slovak judicial authorities in the regulation of such relations and the decision-making in respect of such relations, and help thereby to facilitate international co-operation.

Section 2

International treaties

The provisions of the present Act shall apply only if an international treaty binding on the Slovak Republic or the implementing legislation thereto do not provide otherwise.

PART I

Section 47

Exemption from the jurisdiction of Slovak courts

(1) Foreign States and persons who under international treaties or other rules of international law or specific Slovak legal regulations enjoy immunity in the Slovak Republic shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of Slovak courts.

(2) The provision of paragraph 1 shall also apply to the service of documents, to summons of the aforesaid persons as witnesses, to enforcement of decisions as well as to other procedural acts.

(3) Slovak courts, however, shall have jurisdiction if

(a) the object of the proceedings is the immovable property, situated in the Slovak Republic, of the States or persons specified in paragraph 1 or their rights relating to such immovable property owned by other persons, as well as their rights arising from the tenancy of such immovable property, unless the object of the proceedings is the payment of rent,

(b) the object of the proceedings is the inheritance in which the persons specified in paragraph 1 appear outside their official duties,

(c) the object of the proceedings relates to the employment or commercial activity which the persons specified in paragraph 1 carry out outside their official duties,

(d) the foreign State or the persons specified in paragraph 1 voluntarily submit to their jurisdiction.

(4) Service in the cases specified in paragraph 3 shall be carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. If service cannot thus be performed, the court shall appoint a guardian for the service of documents or, as the case may be, for the protection of the rights.