



## Constitutional Act of 11 July 1960

### Constitution of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

The National Assembly of the Czechoslovak Republic resolved on the following constitutional law:

#### Declaration

#### AND

We, the working people of Czechoslovakia, solemnly declare:

The social establishment, for which whole generations of our workers and other workers fought, and which had been before their eyes since the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, became a reality in our country under the leadership of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

Socialism has won in our homeland!

We have entered a new period in our history and are determined to move on to new, even higher goals. Completing socialist construction, we move on to building a socialist society and gather forces for the transition to communism.

We will continue on this path hand in hand with our great ally, the fraternal Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and with all the other friendly countries of the world socialist system, of which our republic is a strong link.

We want to live in peace and friendship with all the nations of the world and to contribute to peaceful coexistence and good relations between states with different social establishments. Through a consistent peace policy and the all-round development of our country, we will help to convince all nations of the benefits of socialism, which alone leads to the well-being of all mankind.

#### II

Fifteen years ago, in 1945, our working people, liberated by the heroic Soviet army from the shackles of fascist occupation, decided, after experience with the bourgeois republic, to build their liberated state as a people's democracy whose mission was to ensure their peaceful development towards socialism. The head of the republic was the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, a proven vanguard of the working class, consolidated in the struggle during the bourgeois republic and during the occupation. The last broad-based attempt at an international and internal response to reverse this development was reflected in the decisive speech of the working people in February 1948.

Our working people thus first got rid of foreign domination and then capitalist exploitation and became the landlord of their country. In these fifteen years, with his work and purposeful efforts in all areas of human activity, he has achieved such successes as were unthinkable under capitalism. The advantages of the socialist establishment were also clearly and convincingly manifested in our country.

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The two nations that formed the Czechoslovak Republic, the Czechs and the Slovaks, live in brotherhood. The joint building of socialism enabled Slovakia to soon overcome its former backwardness and rise to a high level in industry and agriculture.

The Czechoslovak state, in which the working people, led by the working class, were organized, became a people's organization in the truest sense of the word - a socialist state.

In our country, all the basic tasks of the transition from capitalist society to socialist society have already been solved. Liberated human labor has become a fundamental factor in our entire society. It is now not only a duty, but also a matter of honor for every citizen. The principle of socialism is already being implemented:

"Everyone, according to their abilities,  
to everyone according to his work! "

People's democracy has proved its worth as a path to socialism: it has led us to its victory.

### III

All our efforts are now directed towards creating the material and spiritual preconditions for the transition of our society to communism.

Developing socialist statehood, we will further improve our socialist democracy, expand the participation of workers in the administration of the state and in

managing the economy, consolidating the political and moral unity of our society, securing the country's defenses, guarding the revolutionary conveniences of the people and creating the conditions for the development of all their creative abilities.

In further development, when work becomes the first necessity of life, we want to achieve such an expansion of the productive forces and such an increase in the wealth of society that it is possible to meet all the growing needs of society and the all-round development of each member. Then it will be possible to move to the implementation of the highest principle of division - the principle of communism:

"Everyone, according to their abilities,  
each according to his needs! "

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In order to confirm all the results of the struggles and work of our people so far, and at the same time to show the unwavering will to achieve even higher goals, we are enacting this socialist constitution of our republic today.

## Head first

### Social establishment

#### Art. 1

(1) The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is a socialist state based on a strong union of workers, peasants and intelligentsia, headed by the working class.

(2) The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is a unified state of two equal fraternal nations, the Czechs and the Slovaks.

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- (1) All power in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic belongs to the working people.
- (2) The state power is exercised by the working people by the representative bodies which are elected by it, controlled by it and accountable to it.
- (3) Representatives of the working people in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic are: the National Assembly, the Slovak National Council and national committees. The competence of other state bodies is derived from them.
- (4) Representative bodies and all other state bodies rely on the creative and direct participation of workers and their organizations in their activities.

#### **Art. 3**

- (1) The right to vote in all representative bodies is general, equal and direct with secret ballot. Any citizen who has reached the age of 18 can vote. Every citizen who has reached the age of 21 can be elected.
- (2) Members of representative bodies - deputies - are obliged to be in constant contact with their constituents, to observe their suggestions, to account for them from their activities and to report to them on the activities of the body of which they are members.
- (3) A member of any representative body may be removed at any time by decision of its constituents.

#### **Art. 4**

The leading force in society and in the state is the vanguard of the working class, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, a voluntary union of the most active and conscious citizens from the ranks of workers, peasants and the intelligentsia.

#### **Art. 5**

To develop joint activities, to participate comprehensively and actively in the life of society and the state, and to exercise their rights, workers associate in voluntary social organizations, such as the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement, association organizations, youth organizations, cultural organizations, sports organizations and others; some tasks of state bodies are gradually being transferred to social organizations.

#### **Art. 6**

The National Front of Czechs and Slovaks, in which social organizations are associated, is a political expression of the union of working cities and the countryside, led by the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

#### **Art. 7**

- (1) The economic basis of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is the socialist economic system, which excludes any form of human exploitation.
- (2) The socialist economic system, in which the means of production are socialized and the whole national economy is systematically managed, ensures, with the conscious cooperation of all citizens, the massive development of production and the constant rise of the standard of living of workers.
- (3) In a socialist society, work is work for the benefit of the whole and at the same time for the benefit of the worker himself.

#### **Art. 8**

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natural healing resources; means of industrial production, public transport and communications; financial and insurance institutions; radio, television and film, as well as the most important social facilities, such as medical facilities, schools and scientific institutes.

(3) Land associated with a joint cooperative economy is in the social use of united agricultural cooperatives.

#### **Art. 9**

Within the limits of the socialist economic system, a small private economy based on personal work and excluding the exploitation of foreign labor is permissible.

#### **Art. 10**

(1) Personal ownership of citizens in consumer goods, especially personal and household goods, family houses, as well as savings gained from work is inviolable.

(2) Inheritance of personal property is guaranteed.

#### **Art. 11**

(1) The state establishes economic organizations, especially national enterprises, to which it entrusts parts of national property to the administration as independent legal entities.

(2) Unified agricultural cooperatives are a voluntary association of working peasants for joint socialist agricultural production. The state comprehensively supports their development and effectively helps cooperative agriculture to develop socialist large-scale agricultural production on the basis of advanced science and technology. In accordance with the interest of society, the state also supports the development of other people's cooperatives.

(3) All economic activity of state and other socialist economic organizations develops in mutual harmony and is governed by the principles of democratic centralism. At the same time, the participation and creative initiative of the workers and their social organizations, especially the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement, are consistently applied at all levels of management.

#### **Art. 12**

(1) The entire national economy is governed by the state plan for the development of the national economy, which is drawn up and implemented with the widest active participation of the working people.

(2) The plan for the development of the national economy and culture, which is usually drawn up for a period of five years, is promulgated by law and in this period is a binding basis for planning of individual state bodies and economic organizations.

(3) In accordance with the state plan for the development of the national economy, a state budget is drawn up every year, which is promulgated by law.

#### **Art. 13**

(1) All organizations and all citizens who have any task in fulfilling the state plan for the development of the national economy are obliged to make every effort and take the utmost initiative in order to fulfill the task as best as possible.

(2) All economic organizations are obliged, in accordance with the long-term development plans of the national economy, to systematically create material and technical preconditions for their activities so that they can fulfill their planned tasks.

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of socialist society and creating the conditions for gradual transition to communism, especially overcoming significant differences between physical and mental work and between urban and rural areas.

(2) The co-operative cooperation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and with other countries of the world socialist system enables the realization of these goals. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is constantly developing and consolidating this cooperation, which is based on mutual co-operative assistance and on the international socialist division of labor.

### Art. 15

(1) The state implements such economic, health, social and cultural policy that in parallel with the growth of production, the rise of the living standards of the population and the gradual reduction of working hours, the physical and mental abilities of all the people are constantly developed.

(2) The state takes care of the improvement and comprehensive protection of nature and the preservation of the landscape beauties of the homeland, in order to create ever richer sources of well-being and a suitable environment that would benefit workers' health and enable their recovery.

### Art. 16

(1) All cultural policy in Czechoslovakia, the development of education, upbringing and teaching are conducted in the spirit of scientific worldview, Marxism-Leninism, and in close connection with the life and work of the people.

(2) The state, together with social organizations, makes every effort to support creative activity in science and art, strives for ever wider and deeper education of workers and their active participation in scientific and artistic creation, and ensures that the results of this activity serve all people.

(3) The state and social organizations are constantly striving to eliminate the survivors of an exploitative society in the consciousness of the people.

### Art. 17

(1) All citizens and all state and social organizations in all their activities are governed by the legal order of the socialist state and take care of the full application of socialist legality in the life of society.

(2) Social organizations, fulfilling their mission, lead citizens to uphold the laws, to observe work discipline and the rules of socialist coexistence, and strive to prevent and prevent their violation.

### Art. 18

(1) According to the principle of democratic centralism, the central management of society and the state is effectively combined with the broad powers and responsibilities of lower bodies with the active participation of workers and the exercise of their creative initiative.

(2) On the basis of scientific worldview, the results of science in the management of society and in the planning of its further development are fully applied in the society of workers.

## Head two

### Rights and obligations of citizens

### Art. 19

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expanding and deepening.

(2) In the society of workers, an individual may reach the full development of his abilities and the exercise of his legitimate interests only by active participation in the development of the whole society, in particular by an appropriate share in social work. Therefore, work for the benefit of the whole is a leading duty and the right to work is the foremost right of every citizen.

#### **Art. 20**

(1) All citizens have equal rights and equal obligations.

(2) Equality of all citizens regardless of nationality and race is guaranteed.

(3) Men and women have the same status in the family, at work and in public activity.

(4) The Society of Workers ensures the equality of citizens by creating equal opportunities and equal opportunities in all areas of society.

#### **Art. 21**

(1) All citizens have the right to work and to remuneration for work performed according to its quantity, quality and social significance.

(2) The right to work and to remuneration for it is ensured by the entire socialist economic system, which is unaware of economic crises or unemployment and guarantees a constant increase in real remuneration for work.

(3) The state focuses its policy in such a way that with the development of production and with the increase of labor productivity there may be a gradual reduction of working hours without a reduction in wages.

#### **Art. 22**

(1) All workers have the right to rest after work.

(2) This right is ensured by the legal regulation of working hours and paid leave as well as the care of the state and social organizations for the best use of workers' free time for their recovery and for their cultural life.

#### **Art. 23**

(1) All workers have the right to health protection and medical care, as well as the right to material security in old age and incapacity for work.

(2) These rights are ensured by the care of the state and social organizations for the prevention of diseases, the entire organization of health care, networks of medical and social facilities, ever-expanding free medical care, as well as organized care for safety at work, health insurance and pensions.

#### **Art. 24**

(1) All citizens have the right to education.

(2) This right is guaranteed by the basic school education of all young people, who are compulsory and free up to the age of 15, as well as by a system of free schools which increasingly provides upper secondary education, general or vocational, and higher education. To further deepen education, the organization of on-the-job training and free professional training in plants and in unified agricultural cooperatives, as well as the cultural and educational activities of the state and social organizations.

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Citizens of Hungarian, Ukrainian and Polish nationality are provided by the state with all opportunities and means for education in their mother tongue and for cultural development.

#### **Art. 26**

(1) Motherhood, marriage and the family are under the protection of the state.

(2) The state and society shall ensure that the family is a healthy basis for the development of young people. For families with more children, the state provides special relief and support.

(3) Society provides all children and young people with all opportunities for the all-round development of physical and mental abilities. This development is ensured by the care of the family, the state and social organizations, as well as by special regulation of the working conditions of young people.

#### **Art. 27**

Equal employment of women in the family, at work and in public activities is ensured by special regulation of working conditions and special health care during pregnancy and maternity, as well as by the development of facilities and services enabling women to use all abilities to participate in society.

#### **Art. 28**

(1) In accordance with the interests of the working people, all citizens are guaranteed freedom of expression in all areas of society, in particular freedom of speech and of the press. Citizens use these freedoms both in order to develop their personality and their creative efforts, and to exercise their active participation in the administration of the state and in the economic and cultural construction of the country. To the same end, freedom of assembly and freedom of street processions and demonstrations are guaranteed.

(2) These freedoms are ensured by making available to workers and their organizations publishing houses and printing enterprises, public buildings, halls, open spaces, as well as radio, television and other means.

#### **Art. 29**

Citizens and organizations have the right to turn to councils and other state bodies with proposals, suggestions and complaints; state authorities are obliged to handle them responsibly and in a timely manner.

#### **Art. 30**

(1) The inviolability of the person is guaranteed. No one may be prosecuted as an accused other than for legal reasons and in the manner prescribed by law. No one may be taken into custody, except in cases provided by law and on the basis of a decision of a court or prosecutor.

(2) Penalties may be imposed only on the basis of law.

#### **Art. 31**

The inviolability of the home, the secrecy of letters and the secrecy of the messages conveyed, as well as freedom of residence are guaranteed.

#### **Art. 32**

(1) Freedom of religion is guaranteed. Everyone can profess any religious faith, or be without religion, even perform religious acts, as long as it is not against the law.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic provides asylum to foreign nationals persecuted for defending the interests of the working people, for participating in the national liberation struggle, for scientific and artistic creation or for activities in defense of peace.

#### **Art. 34**

Citizens are obliged to uphold the constitution and other laws and to observe in all their actions the interests of the socialist state and the society of workers.

#### **Art. 35**

Citizens have a duty to protect and consolidate socialist property as an inviolable foundation of the socialist establishment and a source of prosperity for the working people, wealth and power of the homeland.

#### **Art. 36**

Citizens are obliged to conscientiously and honestly perform the public functions to which the working people have called them and to regard their performance for the benefit of society as a matter of honor.

#### **Art. 37**

(1) The ultimate duty and honor of every citizen is the protection of the homeland and its socialist establishment.

(2) Citizens are obliged to perform service in the armed forces according to the law.

#### **Art. 38**

An inseparable part of civic duties is respect for the rights of fellow citizens, as well as the conscious observance of the rules of socialist coexistence.

## **Chapter three**

### **National Assembly**

#### **Art. 39**

(1) The National Assembly is the highest body of state power of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. It is the only national legislature.

(2) The National Assembly has 300 deputies who are elected by the people, accountable to the people and can be removed from the people.

(3) The National Assembly is elected for a period of four years.

(4) The conditions for the exercise of the right to vote in the National Assembly as well as the manner of conducting elections and dismissing deputies shall be determined by law.

## **Powers of the National Assembly**

#### **Art. 40**

(1) The National Assembly negotiates and resolves on basic issues of domestic and foreign policy of the state.

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(1) The National Assembly resolves on the constitution and other laws and monitors how they are implemented. In particular, it approves long-term plans for the development of the national economy and the state budget, examines how they are implemented, and discusses government reports on the implementation of annual plans and the state final account.

(2) The National Assembly watches over the observance of the constitution. It may repeal a law of the Slovak National Council, a regulation or resolution of the government and a generally binding regulation of a regional national committee if they contravene the constitution or another law.

#### **Art. 42**

The National Assembly gives its consent to international political treaties, to economic treaties of a general nature and to such treaties, for the implementation of which it is necessary by law.

#### **Art. 43**

(1) The National Assembly elects the President of the Republic. The President of the Republic is accountable to him for the performance of his duties.

(2) The President of the Republic has the right to be given the floor in the National Assembly whenever he so requests.

#### **Art. 44**

(1) After its appointment by the President of the Republic, the Government shall appear before the National Assembly and ask them to approve its program statement.

(2) The National Assembly monitors and controls the activities of the government and its members. The government and its members are accountable to the National Assembly; it speaks to their statements and reports.

(3) The National Assembly may propose to the President of the Republic that he dismiss the Government or its members.

#### **Art. 45**

(1) The National Assembly has the right to ask questions to the Prime Minister and other members of the Government in matters within their competence. The Prime Minister and other members of the government are obliged to answer questions from deputies.

(2) If requested by the National Assembly, its presidency or committee, a member of the Government is obliged to attend the meeting of the National Assembly, its presidency or its committee in person.

(3) The Prime Minister and other members of the Government have the right to attend meetings of the National Assembly, its presidency or committees, and if they so request, they are given the floor.

#### **Art. 46**

(1) The National Assembly is elected by the Supreme Court and may dismiss its members.

(2) The Attorney General is responsible to the National Assembly for the performance of his function. The National Assembly may propose to the President of the Republic that he remove the Attorney General from office.

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The National Assembly establishes by law ministries and other central bodies.

#### **Art. 48**

The National Assembly as the highest representative body of the republic deals

suggestions of national committees, discuss their activities, generalize their experience and decide on measures to improve their construction and work.

#### **Art. 49**

The National Assembly decides to declare war if the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is attacked or if it is necessary to fulfill international contractual obligations on common defense against attack.

## **Sessions of the National Assembly**

#### **Art. 50**

(1) Meetings of the National Assembly shall be convened by the President of the Republic at least twice a year. A meeting must be convened if at least one third of the Members so request.

(2) The session of the National Assembly shall be declared closed by the President of the Republic.

#### **Art. 50**

(1) The National Assembly is entitled to pass a resolution if an absolute majority of all deputies is present.

(2) The validity of the resolution requires the consent of an absolute majority of the deputies present.

(3) The approval of three-fifths of all deputies is required for the adoption of a constitution or for its amendment, for a resolution on the denunciation of war, for a change in state borders, as well as for the election of the President of the Republic.

(4) Meetings of the National Assembly are in principle public.

(5) The principles of the work of the National Assembly are set out in the Act on the Rules of Procedure and Work Rules of the National Assembly.

## **Laws**

#### **Art. 52**

(1) Bills may be submitted by deputies of the National Assembly, its committees and its presidency, the President of the Republic, the Government and the Slovak National Council.

(2) Acts shall be signed by the President of the Republic, the President of the National Assembly and the Prime Minister.

(3) In order for a law to enter into force, it must be promulgated in the manner prescribed by law. Laws are promulgated by the presidency of the National Assembly within 14 days of their approval.

(1) The National Assembly establishes committees for the main sections of state and social activities as its working and initiative bodies.

(2) The National Assembly shall elect the chairmen and other members of the committees and may remove them at any time.

(3) The committees of the National Assembly monitor and discuss the fulfillment of tasks in economic and cultural construction and give suggestions for the activities of state bodies.

#### **Art. 54**

(1) The committees of the National Assembly rely in their activities on cooperation with workers and their organizations.

(2) Committees have the right to invite members of the government as well as representatives of other state bodies to their meetings and to request information and reports from them.

(3) The Committees shall include scientists, improvers, technicians and other leading workers in economic and cultural life.

## **Members of the National Assembly**

#### **Art. 55**

The validity of the election of deputies is verified by the National Assembly. It does so on a proposal from the mandate committee of its choice.

#### **Art. 56**

In the first session of the National Assembly, which he will attend, the Member of the National Assembly takes the following vow: work to bring them to life. "

#### **Art. 57**

(1) A member of the National Assembly is obliged to work in his or her constituency, to be in constant contact with his or her constituents, to observe their suggestions and to be regularly accountable to them for his or her activities. A Member cooperates with the national committees of his or her constituency and assists them in carrying out their tasks.

(2) A member of the National Assembly is obliged to actively and proactively participate in the work of the National Assembly. In principle, every member of parliament is obliged to work in a committee of the National Assembly.

#### **Art. 58**

A member of the National Assembly may not be prosecuted or remanded in custody without the consent of the National Assembly.

## **Presidency of the National Assembly**

#### **Art. 59**

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expiration of the term until the newly elected National Assembly elects its presidency.

(3) The Presidium of the National Assembly and its members are accountable to the National Assembly for their activities. The National Assembly may remove the Bureau and its members at any time.

(4) The Presidency of the National Assembly shall act by a simple majority of all its members.

#### **Art. 60**

(1) The Presidium of the National Assembly directs the work of the National Assembly.

(2) When the National Assembly does not sit, either because its session is over or because the election period has expired, the presidency shall exercise the powers of the National Assembly. However, it is not up to him to elect the President of the Republic and pass a resolution on constitutional laws. A declaration of war may be resolved only if a session of the National Assembly is prevented by extraordinary events; such a resolution requires the consent of three-fifths of all members of the presidency of the National Assembly. Measures of the Presidency of the National Assembly resulting from this competence must be approved at the next session of the National Assembly, otherwise they expire. Measures that would require a law are taken by the presidency in the form of legal measures signed by the president of the republic, the president of the National Assembly and the prime minister;

(3) During the time when the government performs the function of the President of the Republic, it is the presidency of the National Assembly to appoint and dismiss the government and its members and entrust them with the management of ministries and other central bodies.

(4) The Presidium of the National Assembly announces elections to the National Assembly and general elections to representative assemblies.

## **Chapter four**

### **President of the Republic**

#### **Art. 61**

(1) The head of state is the president of the republic, elected by the National Assembly as a representative of state power.

(2) The President of the Republic is responsible for the performance of his function to the National Assembly.

#### **Art. 62**







(1) The President of the Republic:

1. represents the state externally, negotiates and ratifies international treaties. The negotiation of international treaties and agreements that do not require the consent of the National Assembly may be delegated by the President of the Republic to the Government or, with its consent, to its individual members;

2. receives and authorizes envoys;

3. convenes the sessions of the National Assembly and declares its sessions closed;

4. Signs the laws of the National Assembly and the legal measures of its presidency;

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management of ministries and other central bodies;

7. Has the right to be present at and chair meetings of the Government, to request reports from the Government and from its individual members, and to discuss with the Government or its members issues to be addressed;
8. appoints senior state officials in cases where required by law; appoints and promotes generals;
9. bestow the award, unless authorized to do so by another authority;
10. Has the right to grant amnesty, pardon and commutation of sentences imposed by criminal courts and to order that criminal proceedings not be instituted or continued;
11. Is Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces;
12. declares a state of war at the suggestion of the government and declares war on the basis of a decision of the National Assembly if Czechoslovakia is attacked or if it is necessary to fulfill international contractual obligations on common defense against attack.

(2) The President of the Republic is also entitled to exercise powers that are not explicitly stated in the Constitution, if so provided by law.

### **Art. 63**

- (1) Every citizen elected as a member of the National Assembly may be elected President of the Republic. An electorate is elected by at least three-fifths of all members of the National Assembly.
- (2) The President of the Republic is elected for a term of five years. He assumes the performance of his duties by taking an oath.
- (3) The President of the Republic may not at the same time be a member of the National Assembly, the Slovak National Council or the National Committee or a member of the Government.
- (4) If a deputy or member of the Government is elected President of the Republic, he shall cease to perform the current function from the day of his election. On the day of taking the oath, his mandate or membership in the government expires.

### **Art. 64**

The President of the Republic makes the following vow before the National Assembly: "I promise my honor and conscience allegiance to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the cause of socialism. I will perform my duties according to the will and people.

### **Art. 65**

If the office of the President of the Republic becomes vacant and the new President has not yet been elected and has not taken the oath, also if the President of the Republic is unable to exercise his office for serious reasons, the government is responsible for the exercise of his functions. In such a case, the Government may entrust its President with the exercise of certain powers of the President of the Republic; at that time, the high command of the armed forces passed to the prime minister.

## **Head five**

- (1) The Government is the highest executive body of the state power of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.
- (2) The Government and its members are accountable to the National Assembly for the performance of their duties.

#### **Art. 67**

The government consists of a president, deputy prime ministers and ministers.

#### **Art. 68**

The government organizes and ensures the fulfillment of the tasks of the socialist state in the field of economic and cultural construction and raising the living standards of workers as well as in the field of strengthening the country's security and developing a peaceful foreign policy.

To this end, in particular:

1. unifies, manages and controls the activities of ministries and other central state administration bodies;
2. manages and controls the work of national committees;
3. prepares long-term plans for the development of the national economy and the state budget and ensures and controls their implementation; establish annual plans for the implementation of long-term plans for the development of the national economy and submit reports on their implementation to the National Assembly;
4. ensures compliance with the law and observance of state discipline; protection of citizens' rights and the interests of the state;
5. issues resolutions and regulations on the basis of laws and their implementation; monitors and ensures their implementation;
6. Has the right to submit bills to the National Assembly and bills to its presidency;
7. appoints state officials and heads of economic organizations, where required by law, and submits a proposal for the appointment of officials appointed by the President of the Republic.

#### **Art. 69**

The members of the government make the following promise in the hands of the President of the Republic: "I promise, in my honor and conscience, that I will be faithful to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the cause of socialism. I will fulfill my duties according to the will to be brought to life. "

#### **Art. 70**

- (1) The National Assembly may, by its resolution, propose to the President of the Republic that he dismiss the Government or any of its members. In such a case, the President of the Republic shall dismiss the Government or a member thereof.
- (2) The Government and its members shall perform their tasks in close co-operation and co-operation with the National Assembly and its bodies.

#### **Art. 71**

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The Ministry and other central state administration bodies may issue generally binding legal regulations on the basis of laws and government regulations and their implementation.

## Head six

### Slovak National Council

#### Art. 73

- (1) The Slovak National Council is a national body of state power and administration in Slovakia.
- (2) The Slovak National Council consists of deputies of the Slovak National Council who are elected by the people of Slovakia, are responsible to the people and may be dismissed by the people.
- (3) The Slovak National Council shall be elected for a term of four years.
- (4) The number of deputies of the Slovak National Council, the conditions for exercising the right to vote on the Slovak National Council and the manner of conducting elections and dismissing deputies shall be determined by law of the Slovak National Council.
- (5) The seat of the Slovak National Council is Bratislava.

## Powers of the Slovak National Council

#### Art. 74

The competence of the Slovak National Council includes:

- a) to pass resolutions in accordance with national legislation on the laws of the Slovak National Council in matters of a national or regional nature, if they require special adjustments to ensure the comprehensive economic and cultural development of Slovakia;
- b) pass resolutions on the laws of the Slovak National Council in cases in which the National Assembly authorizes it to do so by law;
- c) to participate in the preparation of the state plan for the development of the national economy and to discuss within the state plan general issues of the development of the national economy and culture in Slovakia;
- d) discuss and approve the budget of the Slovak National Council, its bodies and institutions directly managed by it in Slovakia;
- e) submit bills to the National Assembly;
- (f) exercise control within the limits of its own powers;
- (g) to ensure, in a spirit of equality, favorable conditions for the comprehensive development of the lives of citizens of Hungarian and Ukrainian nationality;
- h) elect the presidency of the Slovak National Council and a representative from its members

Slovak National Council;

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### Art. 75

(1) Meetings of the Slovak National Council shall be convened by the Presidency of the Slovak National Council at least twice a year. A meeting must be convened if requested by at least one third of the members of the Slovak National Council.

(2) The meeting of the Slovak National Council is declared closed by its presidency.

### Art. 76

(1) The Slovak National Council is competent to pass a resolution if an absolute majority of all deputies is present. The validity of the resolution requires the consent of an absolute majority of the Members present.

(2) Meetings of the Slovak National Council are generally public.

(3) The principles of work of the Slovak National Council are set out in the Act of the Slovak National Council on the Rules of Procedure and Working Rules of the Slovak National Council.

## Laws of the Slovak National Council

### Art. 77

(1) Draft laws of the Slovak National Council may be submitted by deputies, commissions and the presidency of the Slovak National Council.

(2) The laws of the Slovak National Council shall be signed by the Chairman of the Slovak National Council.

(3) In order for a law of the Slovak National Council to enter into force, it must be promulgated in the manner prescribed by the law of the Slovak National Council. The laws of the Slovak National Council are promulgated by the Presidency of the Slovak National Council within 14 days after their approval.

## Commission of the Slovak National Council

### Art. 78

(1) The Slovak National Council establishes commissions of the Slovak National Council as its initiative, control and executive bodies for individual sections of its activities.

(2) The commissions of the Slovak National Council monitor the fulfillment of tasks arising from the economic and cultural development of Slovakia, negotiate and resolve them, help to ensure them and submit their resolutions and proposals to the Slovak National Council and its presidency.

(3) The commissions of the Slovak National Council rely in their activities on cooperation with workers and their organizations.

(4) The members of the commissions of the Slovak National Council shall be elected by the Slovak National Council from among its deputies and from political, economic, cultural and other employees in Slovakia. As a rule, the Slovak National Council elects the commissioners of the Slovak National Council as the chairmen of the commissions.

## Members of the Slovak National Council

### Art. 80

A member of the Slovak National Council makes the following promise at the first meeting of the Slovak National Council, which I will attend: "I pledge to my honor and conscience that I will be faithful to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. to be governed by the constitution and other laws of the Republic and to work for the implementation of the laws. "

### Art. 81

(1) A member of the Slovak National Council is obliged to work in his or her constituency, to be in constant contact with his or her voters, to observe their suggestions and to regularly account for them from his or her activities. It cooperates with the national committees of its constituency and assists them in carrying out their tasks.

(2) A member of the Slovak National Council is obliged to actively and proactively participate in the work of the Slovak National Council and its bodies. Every member of the Slovak National Council is obliged to work in a commission of the Slovak National Council.

(3) A member of the Slovak National Council may also be a member of the National Assembly.

### Art. 82

Without the consent of the Slovak National Council, a member of the Slovak National Council may not be prosecuted or disciplinary prosecuted or imprisoned.

## Presidency of the Slovak National Council

### Art. 83

(1) The Presidency of the Slovak National Council has 16 members. It consists of the President of the Slovak National Council, its Vice-Presidents and other members of the Board.

(2) The presidency of the Slovak National Council shall be elected by the Slovak National Council from among its members for the entire election period. The presidency shall remain in office even after the end of the election period, unless the newly elected Slovak National Council elects its presidency.

(3) The Presidency of the Slovak National Council and its members are accountable to the Slovak National Council for their activities. The Slovak National Council may dismiss the Presidency and its members at any time.

(4) A member of the presidency of the Slovak National Council may also be a member of the government.

### Art. 84

(1) The Presidency of the Slovak National Council is the executive body of the Slovak National Council within its competence. It ensures the implementation of laws and, in particular, ensures that the tasks of the state plan are carried out evenly and in full compliance with the plan in Slovakia.

(2) The Presidency of the Slovak National Council manages and unifies the work of commissions and commissioners of the Slovak National Council, discusses their reports and prepares proposals for meetings of the Slovak National Council.

(3) The Presidency of the Slovak National Council shall issue resolutions and regulations on the basis of the laws of the Slovak National Council and their implementation.

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- (1) The Slovak National Council shall elect a representative of the Slovak National Council from among the members of the Board of the Slovak National Council; may remove the Commissioner of the Slovak National Council from their position at any time.
- (2) Commissioners of the Slovak National Council operate in the fields of state administration stipulated by law. .
- (3) The commissioners of the Slovak National Council perform the assigned tasks within the limits of the competence of the Slovak National Council. It performs other tasks in economic and cultural construction in Slovakia to the extent set by the government.

## Chapter seven

### National committees

#### Art. 86

- (1) National committees - the broadest organizations of workers - are bodies of state power and administration in regions, districts and municipalities.
- (2) National committees are composed of deputies who are elected by the people, accountable to the people and can be removed from the people.
- (3) National committees are elected for a period of four years.
- (4) The conditions for the exercise of the right to vote in national committees as well as the manner of conducting elections and dismissing members of national committees shall be determined by law.

#### Art. 87

- (1) National committees carry out all their activities with the constant and active participation of the workers of their districts. In this way, they involve workers to the greatest extent in the administration of the state, use their experience and learn from them.
- (2) National committees work in close cooperation with other organizations of the working people; they rely on their cooperation and help them to fulfill their tasks.

#### Art. 88

- (1) National committees and their deputies are accountable to their constituents for their activities.
- (2) A member of the National Committee is obliged to work in his constituency, to be in constant contact with his constituents, to consult with them, to observe their suggestions, to account for them from his activities and to report to them on the activities of the National Committee.
- (3) A member of a national committee is obliged to take the initiative in participating in the work of the national committee and to work in one of its commissions.
- (4) A member of the National Committee shall make the following pledge at the first meeting of the National Committee to attend: "I promise, in my honor and conscience, that I will be trusted in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Socialist cause. laws of the republic and work to bring them into practice. "

plan, manage and organize construction in the economic, cultural, health and social fields in their territorial districts; their main tasks include caring for the ever-improving satisfaction of the material and cultural needs of workers; to this end, they shall set up and manage economic organizations and cultural, health and social facilities;

ensure the protection of socialist property and all the conveniences of the working people, the socialist order in society, observance of the rules of socialist coexistence and strengthen the defense of the republic;

ensure that laws are implemented and ensure that they are upheld, ensure the protection and exercise of the rights and exercise the legitimate interests of workers' and socialist organizations.

### **Art. 90**

(1) In their activities, national committees follow the state plan for the development of the national economy. Participates in its elaboration and implementation. In accordance with it and on its basis, it establishes a development plan for its territorial district.

(2) To ensure the tasks of the plan, they have the necessary material and financial resources at their disposal and use them as responsible managers.

(3) The basis for the financial management of national committees is their budget, which they compile and which is part of the state budget.

### **Art. 91**

National committees are regional, district and in municipal or local municipalities. In Prague there is the National Committee of the Capital City of Prague, in the city districts of Prague and some other cities there are district national committees.

### **Art. 92**

The powers and responsibilities of the national committees of the various levels shall be determined in such a way that the national committee, with the broad participation of workers, can ensure the most effective economic and cultural development and the needs of the citizens of its district.

### **Art. 93**

(1) In their work, national committees combine the fulfillment of national tasks with the provision of special needs of their districts and the interests of citizens.

(2) National committees are governed by the fundamental principle that the interests of all the people of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic take precedence over partial and local interests, and in all their activities they educate citizens to consciously and voluntarily fulfill their obligations to society and the state.

### **Art. 94**

National committees may issue regulations that are generally binding on their districts to carry out their tasks.

### **Art. 95**

(1) National committees form councils, commissions and other bodies and manage their work.

(2) The Council, under the leadership of the National Committee, manages and unifies the work of other bodies of the National Committee as well as its organizations and facilities. The National Committee elects it from among its

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sections of its activities. They are equipped with the necessary powers to do so. The commissions, which are elected by the National Committee from among its members and from other citizens, increase the systematic participation of workers in the activities of the National Committee. They are accountable to the National Committee and its Council.

### Art. 96

(1) National committees of higher levels direct and manage the activities of national committees of lower levels. At the same time, they fully respect their powers and responsibilities. They rely on their initiative and experience and perform their tasks in constant cooperation with them.

(2) In their activities, national committees are governed by laws and regulations as well as government resolutions, as well as resolutions and directives of higher state bodies; resolutions of the lower-level national committee that contradict them may be annulled by the higher-level national committee or the government.

## Chapter Eight

### Courts and prosecution

#### Art. 97

(1) Courts and the prosecutor's office protect the socialist state, its social establishment as well as the rights and legitimate interests of citizens and organizations of the working people.

(2) The courts and the prosecutor's office, through all their activities, educate citizens to devote themselves to social affairs, to observe the laws and rules of socialist coexistence, and to honorably fulfill their obligations to the state and society.

## Courts

#### Art. 98

(1) Judiciary in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is performed by elected and independent people's courts.

(2) The courts are: the Supreme Court, regional and district courts, military courts, as well as local people's courts.

#### Art. 99

(1) The Supreme Court is the highest judicial body; oversees the judicial activities of all other courts. Judges of the Supreme Court are elected by the National Assembly.

(2) Judges of regional courts are elected by regional national committees.

(3) Judges of district courts are elected by citizens according to general, direct and equal suffrage with secret ballot.

(4) The Supreme Court, regional and district courts shall be elected for a term of four years.

(5) Military courts are elected according to special regulations.

#### Art. 100

(1) Courts decide in principle in churches.

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### Art. 101

- (1) In order to further deepen the participation of workers in the administration of justice, local people's courts shall be elected in places and workplaces.
- (2) Local people's courts contribute to the consolidation of socialist legality, to the provision of social order and the rules of socialist coexistence.
- (3) The scope of jurisdiction of local people's courts, the manner in which they are established, their election period and the principles of their organization and conduct shall be determined by law.

### Art. 102

- (1) Judges shall be independent in the performance of their duties and shall be bound only by the law of a socialist state. They are obliged to abide by laws and other legal regulations and to interpret them in accordance with socialist legal awareness.
- (2) Judges are obliged to submit to their voters or to the representative body which elected them reports on their activities and on the activities of the court of which they are members. Judges may be removed by the electorate or by the representative body that elected them; the conditions and manner of dismissal of judges shall be determined by law.

### Art. 103

- (1) In proceedings, the courts shall proceed in such a way as to ascertain the actual state of affairs and shall base their decisions on it.
- (2) Proceedings before all courts are, in principle, oral and public; the public may be excluded only in cases provided by law.
- (3) The accused shall be guaranteed the right of defense.
- (4) Judgments shall be pronounced on behalf of the Republic and always in public.

## Prosecutor's Office

### Art. 104

Supervision over the consistent implementation and observance of laws and other legal regulations by ministries and other state administration bodies, national committees, courts, economic and other organizations and citizens is the responsibility of the prosecutor's office; it is headed by the Attorney General.

### Art. 105

- (1) The Attorney General is appointed and removed by the President of the Republic.
- (2) The Attorney General is responsible to the National Assembly.

### Art. 106

The prosecuting authorities report only to the Attorney General and perform their functions independently of the local authorities. In all their activities, they rely on the initiative of the working people and their organizations.

### Art. 107

- (1) The territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic forms a unified and integral whole.
- (2) State borders may be changed only by constitutional law.
- (3) The territorial organization of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is organized with regard to the economic, political, social and cultural needs of the whole society so as to comprehensively assist its further development and ensure the widest possible participation of workers in state administration and economic and cultural construction management.

### Art. 108

Citizenship is acquired and lost under the conditions stipulated by law.

### Art. 109

Hlavním městem Československé socialistické republiky je Praha.

### Čl. 110

- (1) Státní znak Československé socialistické republiky tvoří červený štít tvaru husitské pavězy s pěticípou hvězdou v horní části, na kterém je bílý dvouocasý lev nesoucí na hrudi červený štítek s modrou siluetou Kriváně a vatrou zlaté barvy. Kresba znaku je zlatá.
- (2) Státní vlajka Československé socialistické republiky se skládá ze spodního pole červeného a vrchního bílého, mezi něž je vsunut modrý klín od žerdi ke středu vlajky.
- (3) Podrobnosti o státním znaku a o státní vlajce i způsob jejich používání stanoví zákon.

### Čl. 111

- (1) Ústava může být měněna pouze ústavním zákonem.
- (2) Zákony ani jiné právní předpisy nesmějí odporovat ústavě. Výklad a používání všech právních předpisů musí být v souladu s ústavou.

### Čl. 112

- (1) The Constitution shall enter into force on the day it has been approved by the National Assembly.
- (2) On this day, the current constitution and other constitutional laws that amended it shall cease to be valid.

Novotný vr  
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