

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



ÚRAD PRE REGULÁCIU
ELEKTRONICKÝCH KOMUNIKÁCIÍ
A POŠTOVÝCH SLUŽIEB

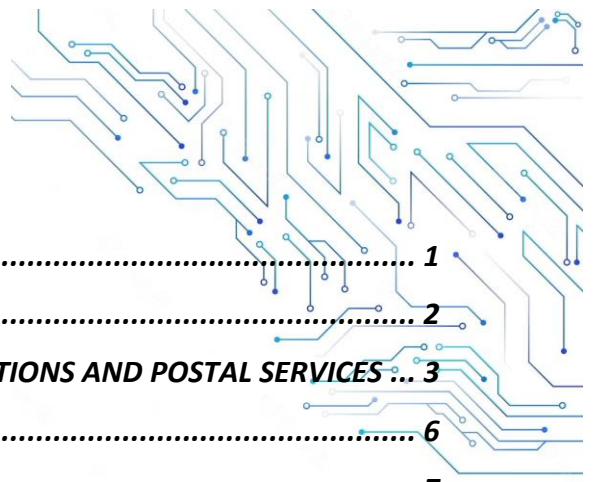


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REVENUE

33 179 900 EUR

- **registering 31 new businesses** and **41 deleted** businesses providing electronic communications networks or services
- **4 generally binding regulations** issued
- **21 number allocation decisions issued**, including 9 number allocation decisions from the set (0)888 xxxxxx intended for direct marketing services
- **revenue from number allocations EUR 509 103**

- **4 generally binding legal regulations** on spectrum use issued
- **8 general frequency authorisations** issued
- **21 draft general authorisations** for the use of frequencies
- **12 562 decisions** on spectrum use
- **1249 special professional competence certificates**
- **13 409 coordinations**

142 employees

77 women and 65 men

- **345 inspections** by the Department of State Supervision of Electronic Communications of which 378 deficiencies
 - **351 spectrum monitorings** of which 151 deficiencies
 - **122 complaints** of interference with the operation of networks, services and facilities, while the Authority closed 113 cases of reported interference
 - **534 complaints investigated**
 - **175 administrative proceedings** with 173 decisions imposing fines and 2 decisions prohibiting undertakings
 - **6 appeals** received against decisions taken
 - **total amount of fines imposed EUR 173 330**
- **24 postal undertakings** registered
 - **net universal service costs for 2021 of EUR 14 050 658**
 - **11 petitions** for postal services received
 - **73 submissions** received for postal services
 - measured quality standard – Class 1 letter **94.43%** Class 2 letter – **92.23%** recorded delivery Class 2 letter – **94.82%**
 - measured quality of overall satisfaction with the universal service of the provider Slovenská pošta, a. s. – **67,89%**

EXPENDITURE

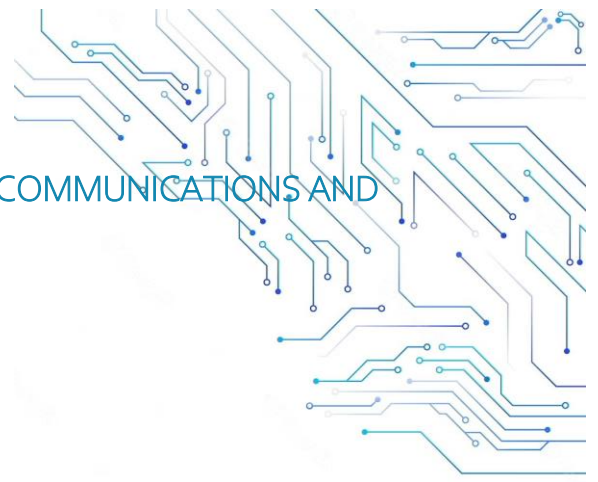
8 613 331,74 EUR

2620
electronic submissions received

2763
letter submissions received
(by post and in person)

- **31 requests** received and made available in accordance with the Act on Free Access to Information and on Amendments and Additions to Certain Acts,
- **18 complaints received** by the Audit, Complaints and Dispute Resolution Unit

REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES



Registered office

Továrenská 7, P.O. BOX 40, 828 55 Bratislava 24

Contact information

www.teleoff.gov.sk

Department

telecommunications, postal services, organisations established by law

Form of management

budgetary organisation

Corporate Identification Number

42 355 818

Bank information

State Treasury, Radlinského 32, 810 05 Bratislava 15,


Account No.: IBAN SK23 8180 0000 0070 0049 9755

Key information

The Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services (the Authority) was established by the Act No. 402/2013 Coll. on the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services and the Transport Authority and on changes and amendments to certain laws. The Authority, established by this Act, became the legal successor to the abolished Telecommunications Office of the Slovak Republic and the Postal Regulatory Office as of 1 January 2014. All their rights, obligations, powers, and competencies under special regulations were transferred to it.

Characteristics of the Authority

The mission of the Authority is to regulate electronic communications, postal services and postal payment services.



we conduct state supervision in the fields of electronic communications and postal services

state authorities, local authorities, other public authorities, or other individuals must **not influence** the Authority in the exercise of its regulatory and pricing powers

we are the regulatory and pricing authority

we exercise our regulatory and pricing powers impartially and independently

we serve all affected entities and citizens at our Bratislava headquarters, as well as at regional offices in Bratislava, Trnava, Nitra, Banská Bystrica, Žilina, Prešov and Košice

we collaborate with ministries, other central government bodies, EU entities, and international organisations within our competency field. We also **conduct** additional activities as stipulated by special regulations



MANAGEMENT OF THE AUTHORITY

Ing. Ivan Marták, Chairman of the Authority

Ing. Ján Fľak, PhD., Vice-Chairman of the Authority

Director of the Chairman's Office

Ing. Maria Frindrichová

Director of the Economy and Administration Department

Ing. Milada Lovičová

Director of Legislative and Legal Affairs Department

JUDr. Paulína Stanová Gürtlerová

Director of the Postal Services Regulation Department

JUDr. Zuzana Istenikova

Director of Human Resources

Ing. Natasha Svobodova

Director of the Spectrum Planning Department

Ing. Milan Mizera

Director of the Electronic Communications Regulation Department

Mgr. Ing. Ivan Martyák

Director of the State Supervision Department

Ing. Dusan Mozola

Director of the Strategy and Communication Department

Ing. Bruno Patúš

Director of the Information and Communication Technologies Department

Bc. Andrej Bradáč

Director of the Single Information Point

Mgr. Michal Gajarský

FOREWORD OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AUTHORITY



Ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues,

2022 has been a difficult, yet successful year. This year, as in previous years, we have prioritised creating better conditions for users across our entire portfolio, encompassing not only electronic communications but also postal services.

In the first half of the year, we successfully implemented a unique agreement among operators – the refarming (realignment) of frequencies in the 1800 MHz band – and concluded a public tender for the use of frequencies from the 3600 MHz band through an electronic auction. We issued a postal licence and mandated the use of cookies on websites. A new measure introduced was the mandatory use of the marketing area code (o)888. Now, any entity wishing to contact the public by telephone with an offer of goods or services must use this area code. I am pleased to note that since last year we have been protecting the end customer from unsolicited marketing calls. As an additional measure, we introduced the List of Telephone Numbers to Prevent Unsolicited Marketing Calls at www.nevyziadanevolania.sk. Here, every citizen of the Slovak Republic can register not just their mobile phone number, but also their landline number. All those who do not wish to be disturbed by telemarketing offers have the option to opt out. Throughout the year, we also addressed secondary legislation stemming from the Electronic Communications Act, which we aim to finalise in the upcoming year. I must also mention the funding of two absolutely key European projects undertaken by the Authority, primarily within the framework of the Operational Programme Integrated Infrastructure – these pertain to the digitisation of the Authority and cybersecurity.

In the upcoming year, we will confront significant challenges such as the implementation of the e-auction, approval of the Feasibility Study, and carrying out public consultation on the National Broadband Strategy. I hope for the successful completion of projects funded by European resources aimed at streamlining our office's work. It is also worth mentioning that the upcoming year, 2023, will be marked by the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Telecommunications Authority of the Slovak Republic in the era of Slovak independence – the predecessor to today's Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services.

I would like to express my gratitude to all my colleagues for their efforts that ensured our prioritised tasks and objectives were successfully achieved.

In conclusion: "I firmly believe that together we have significantly contributed to the modernisation and convenience of using electronic communications and postal services!"

Ing. Ivan Marták
Chairman of the Authority

FOREWORD OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE AUTHORITY



In the field of state regulation and supervision of postal services, the Authority remained committed in 2022 to promoting a competitive market environment and ensuring equal business opportunities within the Slovak postal market. Furthermore, it diligently monitored the compliance of individual business entities with the necessary requirements for conducting their operations. A notable focus of the Authority's efforts was dedicated to the process of issuing a postal licence for the 2023-2027 period. This undertaking was driven by the objective of providing the universal postal service, which is deemed to be in the public interest. The process spanned from the publication of the call in April until September 2022, when the Authority granted the Postal Licence for the provision of universal service and the implementation of postal payment services

to Slovenská pošta, a.s., for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2027. Simultaneously, the Authority implemented changes in the requirements for the quality of universal service, as well as the scope and conditions of its provision. The fundamental changes impacting the provision of the universal postal service have been, and continue to be, the ongoing optimisation of the postal network implemented by the current universal service provider, Slovenská pošta, a.s. This has significantly affected the users' perception of territorial and temporal access to postal services.

Furthermore, towards the end of 2022, a legislative process was initiated to regulate the pricing of universal service and postal payment services. This process will result in the establishment of new tariffs for the provision of these services.

A permanent and long-term responsibility of the Authority is to verify and calculate the net cost for the provision of a universal service as the basis for funding from the Compensation Fund administered by the Authority. A procurement process has been completed to conduct a check and verification of the accuracy of the calculation of the preliminary net costs and the net costs of the universal service for the years 2023 to 2025.

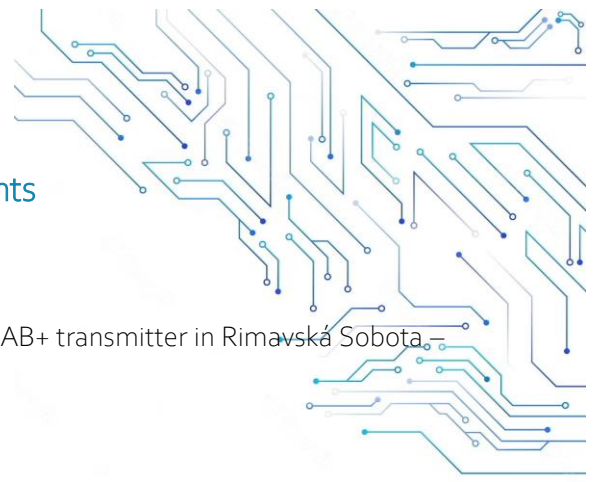
A significant portion of the Authority's activities in the field of postal service provision is dedicated to addressing user complaints regarding dissatisfaction with the quality of postal services. In this regard, the Authority consistently addresses every complaint to safeguard the rights of users and, in response to justified complaints, it takes appropriate measures. The positive feedback received from users validates the Authority's endeavours in ensuring the quality of postal services.

Looking at the medium-term outlook, the provision of the universal postal service in the public interest is greatly influenced by significant changes occurring in the market, both in Slovakia and across Europe. These changes will gradually necessitate the process of establishing new conditions to ensure that universal service remains accessible to all users under equitable conditions, while maintaining reasonable standards of quality and pricing. These matters are currently being extensively discussed within the framework of ongoing international cooperation. The expectation is that an appropriate legislative and regulatory framework will be adopted to address these issues.

Ing. Ján Flák, PhD.

Vice-Chairman of the Authority

MILESTONES OF 2022 – Calendar of significant events



JANUARY

- The decision has been issued for the operation of the T-DAB+ transmitter in Rimavská Sobota, Paláska 11C.

FEBRUARY

- As of 1 February 2022, the Electronic Communications Act No. 452/2021 Coll., which was adopted in 2021, came into effect. The Authority played a fundamental role in cooperating with the Ministry of Transport of the Slovak Republic during its development.
- In accordance with Section 19 of the Postal Services Act, two postal undertakings have been registered in the Register of Postal Undertakings; this action was based on their submitted applications for registration and their fulfilment of the specified conditions. *More information can be found at: <https://www.teleoff.gov.sk/registracia/>.*
- The Authority has issued a decision allowing for the operation of the T-DAB+ transmitter in Trenčín 12C.

MARCH

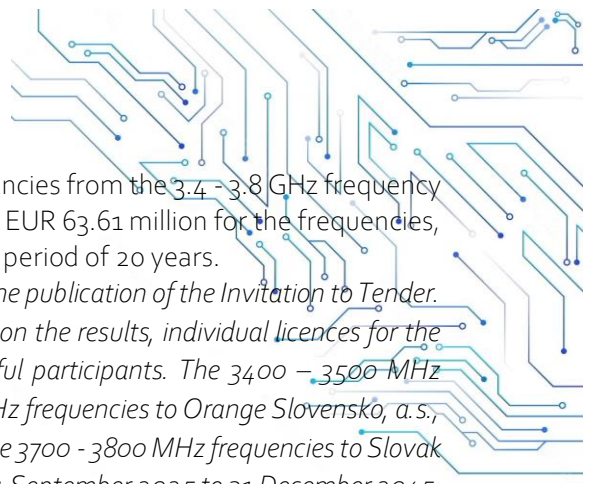
- A new pricing regulation for the provision of the universal postal service and the execution of postal payments has been adopted.
- An analysis of Relevant Market 1, which refers to wholesale local access services provided in a fixed location, has been conducted. The market in question pertains to the provision of wholesale services related to the rental of physical infrastructure in the access part of electronic communications networks.
- An analysis of Relevant Market 2, which refers to wholesale reserved capacity, has been conducted. The market in question focuses on access to terminating network lines with high-quality parameters for the provision of circuit rental services.

APRIL

- New Universal Service Quality Requirements have been established under Section 41 of the Postal Services Act. These requirements apply fully to the provision of postal payments by a universal service provider if this obligation is imposed in the Postal Licence. *More details can be found at: https://www.teleoff.gov.sk/data/files/50626_zmena_poziadavky-na-kvalitu_v-final_4_2022.pdf.*
- The Invitation for the submission of applications for the granting of a postal licence for the provision of universal service and postal payment services has been published in the Bulletin of the Authority No. 4/2022. This invitation pertains to the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2027.
- The Agreement on the arrangement of the frequency plan for the frequency band 174 - 230 MHz for radio digital terrestrial broadcasting has been signed with the administration of the Czech Republic.
- Decisions have been issued for the operation of T-DAB+ transmitters in Borský Mikuláš 6D, Košice 10C and Košice – Heringeš 10C.

MAY

- Publication of a report on the state of provision of the universal service and postal payment services for 2021 on the Authority's website (*available at: <https://www.teleoff.gov.sk/sprava-o-stave-poskytovania-univerzalnejsluzby-a-postoveho-platobneho-styku/>*).



- Conducted tender procedure for the reallocation of frequencies from the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz frequency band. The successful bidders have agreed to pay a total of EUR 63.61 million for the frequencies, which grants them the right to utilise the frequencies for a period of 20 years.
The selection procedure was initiated on 1 March 2022, with the publication of the Invitation to Tender. The electronic auction concluded on 5 May 2022, and based on the results, individual licences for the use of the allocated frequencies were issued to the successful participants. The 3400 – 3500 MHz frequencies were awarded to SWAN, a.s., the 3500 – 3600 MHz frequencies to Orange Slovensko, a.s., the 3600 – 3700 MHz frequencies to O2 Slovakia, s.r.o., and the 3700 - 3800 MHz frequencies to Slovak Telekom, a.s. The frequencies were allocated with effect from 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2045.

JUNE

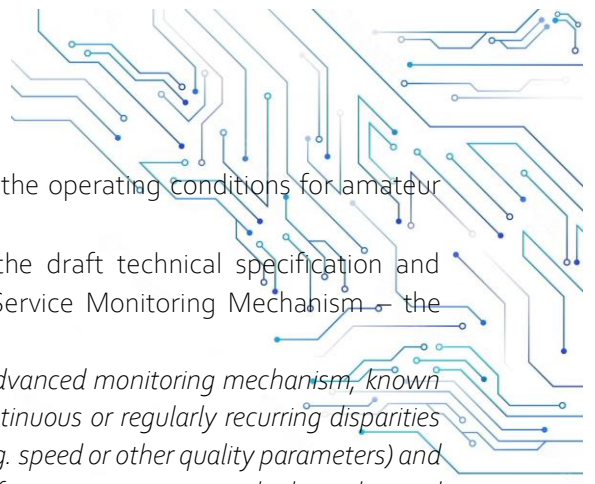
- The Authority has been actively engaged in addressing the issue of "cookies", which are small text files stored by a web server on the end device during website visits and browsing.
- The Authority has conducted an assessment of cross-border parcel delivery tariffs in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/644 of the European Parliament and of the Council dated 18 April 2018, regarding cross-border parcel delivery services.
- New individual authorisations have been issued to the existing holders in the 1800 MHz frequency band. With the issuance of the authorisations, the Authority has successfully concluded the process of frequency realignment (*refarming*) in the 1800 MHz frequency band among the holders of individual authorisations.
As a result of the process, contiguous frequency bands have been established, and an agreement has been reached on the lease of rights arising from the allocation of frequencies among mobile operators. The agreement permits the utilisation of frequencies from the 1800 MHz band in multiples of the basic block size, specifically 5 MHz. This allows for the allocation of 15 MHz and 20 MHz blocks, respectively, which represents an optimal distribution for broadband services.
- Collecting information about the own backhaul fibre optic network from the entities (businesses) owning this network.
Out of the 295 entities surveyed, 190 provided the Authority with a response regarding whether they own such a network or not. The purpose of this data collection was to assess the presence of backhaul fibre optic networks in individual municipalities in Slovakia and to obtain forecasts regarding the coverage of municipalities with backhaul optical fibre from 2022 to 2024. The most recent data regarding backhaul optical fibre were based on information available as of the end of 2021.

JULY

- A measure has been issued to amend the tariff for the right to use a frequency or an identifier.
- A measure has been issued to establish a tariff of charges for assigned numbers. The measure will determine the payment amount to be made in relation to the allocation of numbers or sets of numbers.

AUGUST

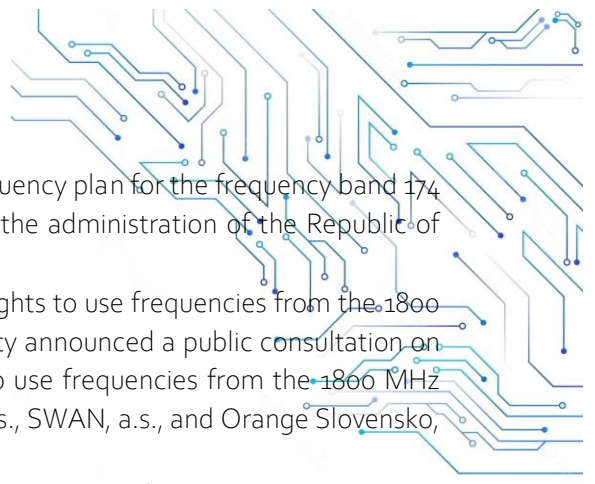
- The determination of the net cost of universal service for 2021, in accordance with Section 57 of the Postal Services Act, has been completed (*accessible at: https://www.teleoff.gov.sk/data/files/52228_vestnik-co7_2022.pdf*).
- Decree No. 283/2022 Coll. has been issued, which outlines details on selected radio equipment, the establishment of the test commission, the annexes to the application, the content, scope, and process of the test, as well as the certificates of special professional competence.
- Decree No. 288/2022 Coll. has been issued, establishing the spectrum use plan. A spectrum use plan specifies the manner and conditions for the utilisation of a frequency spectrum.



- Decree No. 291/2022 Coll. has been issued, establishing the operating conditions for amateur stations.
- A public consultation has been announced regarding the draft technical specification and conditions for the certification of the Internet Access Service Monitoring Mechanism – the Internet Meter.
The objective is to establish a certified and technologically advanced monitoring mechanism, known as the Internet Meter, to assess and address significant, continuous or regularly recurring disparities between the actual performance of Internet access service (e.g. speed or other quality parameters) and the claims made by Internet access service providers. The focus is on ensuring a high-quality and reliable monitoring system.
- Issuance of the Decree on the National Numbering Plan. The Decree establishes rules regarding the allocation and use of numbers that operators may use in providing public electronic communications services.

SEPTEMBER

- In accordance with Section 45(2)(b), Section 47, and Section 67(1) of the Postal Services Act, the Authority granted Slovak Post, a.s., for the period starting from 1 January, 2023 to 31 December, 2027, the Postal licence no. 7338/ORPS/2022-25092 dated 8 September, 2022 for the provision of universal service and the implementation of postal payments (*accessible at: <https://www.teleoff.gov.sk/postova-licencia/>*).
- Under the provisions of the new Electronic Communications Act, the Authority has issued eight new general authorisations for the use of frequencies.
 1. *General authorisation no. VPR – 01/2022 for the use of frequencies in the operation of radio transmitters and stations for broadband data transmission and other data applications using spread spectrum modulation promulgated on 20 September 2022 (replaces authorisation nos. VPR – 01/2021 and VPR – 35/2012).*
 2. *General authorisation no. VPR – 02/2022 for the use of frequencies in the operation of unspecified short-range radio equipment intended for the transmission of data, voice, and other signals promulgated on 9 September 2022 (replaces authorisation no. VPR – 02/2020).*
 3. *General authorisation no. VPR – 03/2022 for the use of frequencies in the operation of short-range radio devices used as active medical implants and health data acquisition devices promulgated on 9 September 2022 (replaces authorisation nos. VPR – 06/2018 and VPR – 09/2014).*
 4. *General authorisation no. VPR – 04/2022 for the use of frequencies in the operation of short-range radio equipment with a high-duty cycle or continuous broadcasting, primarily used in the production of audio programmes and events, promulgated on 9 September 2022 (replaces authorisation nos. VPR – 04/2014 and VPR – 02/2015).*
 5. *General authorisation no. VPR – 05/2022 for the use of frequencies in the operation of short-range radio equipment used as assistive listening devices for hearing impaired persons promulgated on 9 September 2022 (replaces authorisation no. VPR – 02/2018).*
 6. *General authorisation no. VPR – 08/2022 for the use of frequencies from the frequency band 446.0 – 446.2 MHz in the operation of radio equipment for voice communication promulgated on 20 September 2022 (replaces authorisation nos. VPR – 03/2018 and VPR – 27/2012).*
 7. *General authorisation no. VPR - 13/2022 for the use of frequencies 448.070 MHz and 448.170 MHz for the operation of telemetry radio equipment promulgated on 20 September 2022 (replaces authorisation no. VPR – 22/2012).*
 8. *General authorisation no. VPR – 14/2022 has been issued for the use of frequencies in the operation of terminal equipment of public electronic communications networks promulgated on 20 September 2022 (replaces authorisation no. VPR – 05/2019).*
- The Authority has initiated consultations on 21 draft new general authorisations with the aim of aligning all existing general authorisations, issued under the previous rules, with the provisions of the Electronic Communications Act.



- Signing of the Agreement on the arrangement of the frequency plan for the frequency band 174 – 230 MHz for radio digital terrestrial broadcasting with the administration of the Republic of Austria.
- The Authority has initiated the process of renewing the rights to use frequencies from the 1800 MHz frequency band. On 7 September 2022, the Authority announced a public consultation on the draft decisions regarding the renewal of the rights to use frequencies from the 1800 MHz frequency band for O2 Slovakia, s.r.o., Slovak Telekom, a.s., SWAN, a.s., and Orange Slovensko, a.s.

Due to the balanced distribution of frequencies among providers of public mobile electronic communications services and the coherence of the allocated frequency sections within the 1800 MHz frequency band, the Authority has determined that there is no need for reallocation through a tender procedure. Instead, it is more efficient to follow the procedures for the renewal of rights to use the harmonised frequency spectrum, as defined in Section 48 of the Electronic Communications Act.

OCTOBER

- Tender procedures have been initiated for the re-allocation of frequencies from the 10.5 GHz frequency band in the districts of Detva, Ilava, Poprad, Spišská Nová Ves, Trenčín, and Zlaté Moravce. Slovanet emerged as the successful bidder in all of these tender procedures.
The selection procedures for the districts of Detva, Ilava, Poprad, Spišská Nová Ves, Trenčín, and Zlaté Moravce were initiated on 10 October 2022, through the publication of the Call for Tenders. The electronic auctions concluded on 14 November 2022 and 15 November 2022. Based on the results of the selection procedures, individual licences for the use of the allocated frequencies were issued to the successful participants. The new individual licences expire on 30 September 2026.
- Following the evaluation of the public consultation conducted on 28 October 2022, the Authority initiated the issuance of renewed decisions on the allocation of frequencies from the 1800 MHz frequency band and the determination of conditions for their use to the current holders of individual frequency licences. These decisions pertain to the period starting from 2026.

NOVEMBER

- The Phone Number List, aimed at preventing unsolicited marketing calls, was launched on 1 November 2022.
- The Authority's representatives actively participated in the 23rd Plenary Meeting of the European Regulators Group for Postal Services. They contributed to the work of various work groups during the 2022 meeting.
- A public consultation has been conducted on a draft general authorisation for the provision of electronic communications networks or electronic communications services.

DECEMBER

- Issuance of the Decree specifying the details of number portability. The Decree specifies the administrative procedure for number portability when an end user decides to switch operators.
- Issuance of the Decree establishing the minimum data transmission speed in both directions. The Decree establishes minimum parameters for ensuring the provision of adequate broadband Internet access.



Electronic Communications Act

As of 1 February 2022, the Electronic Communications Act No. 452/2021 Coll., which was adopted in 2021, came into effect; the Authority played a fundamental role in collaborating with The Ministry of Transport of the Slovak Republic during its development. This legislation has necessitated the adoption of new secondary legislation issued by the Authority, necessary to implement some of the provisions of the new act, as well as the need for a new general authorisation.

In 2022, the Legislative and Legal Affairs Department drafted a legislative task plan that identifies the department responsible for the processing of the binding legal act, as well as the projected adoption date. Based on this, legislative materials were gradually included in the legislative process in 2022, and they were adopted and published in the Collection of Laws:

- Notification no. 3/2022 of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services regarding the issuance of the measure of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services dated 25 July 2022. The measure establishes the tariff of charges no. 276/2022 for assigned numbers, effective from 29 July 2022;
- Notification no. 4/2022 of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services regarding the issuance of the measure of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services dated 25 July 2022. The measure establishes the tariff of charges no. 277/2022 for the right to use a frequency or an identifier, effective from 29 July 2022;
- Decree no. 283/2022 Coll. of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services, outlining the details of selected radio equipment, the establishment of the test commission, the annexes to the application, the content, scope, and process of the test, as well as the certificates of special professional qualification, effective from 15 August 2022;
- Decree no. 286/2022 Coll. of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services on the National Numbering Plan, effective from 19 August 2022;
- Decree no. 288/2022 Coll. of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services establishing the spectrum use plan, effective from 1 September 2022;
- Decree no. 291/2022 Coll. of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services establishing the operating conditions for amateur stations, effective from 1 September 2022;
- Decree no. 368/2022 Coll. of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services on the List of Telephone Numbers to Prevent Unsolicited Marketing Calls, effective from 15 November 2022;
- Decree no. 431/2022 Coll. of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services specifying the details of number portability, effective from 1 February 2023;
- Decree no. 474/2022 Coll. of the Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services establishing the minimum data transmission speed in both directions, effective from 1 February 2023.

The [nevyzadanevolania.sk](http://www.nevyzadanevolania.sk) portal

Representatives of the Department of State Supervision of Electronic Communications have played a significant role in the development of the www.nevyzadanevolania.sk portal. This is the List of Telephone Numbers to Prevent Unsolicited Marketing Calls (hereinafter referred to as the "List"), which is in use since 1 November 2022. The telephone numbers registered in the List are updated always on the 1st and 16th day of each calendar month. Any Slovak telephone number, whether registered to a natural or legal person, can be included in this list to express opposition to receiving marketing calls.



Cookies

The obligation to obtain consent to storing or obtaining access to cookies results from Section 109(8) of the Act on Electronic Communications, according to which anyone who stores or gains access to information stored in the user's end device is authorised to do so only if the user concerned has given demonstrable consent. This provision is a transposition of the Directive on Privacy and Electronic Communications – specifically, Article 5(3) of Directive 2002/58/EC. This directive was established by the European Parliament and Council on 12 July 2002 to regulate the processing of personal data and protect privacy within the electronic communications sector.

In collaboration with the Office for Personal Data Protection of the Slovak Republic, an advisory document (hereinafter referred to as the "Opinion") has been issued concerning the process of obtaining consent as per Section 109(8) of the Electronic Communications Act. The Opinion establishes guidelines for evaluating whether the acquired consent aligns with the stipulations in Article 4(11) and Article 7 of the General Data Protection Regulation. This regulation, identified as (EU) 2016/679, was passed by the European Parliament and Council on 27 April 2016, with the aim of protecting individuals in regard to the processing of their personal data and ensuring the free movement of such data. The Opinion provides recommendations on the appropriate procedures for securing consent for the processing and storage of cookies. The Authority's Opinion aims to proactively guide website operators to ensure that their methods for storing and accessing information via cookies, including the process of obtaining consent from users, are both appropriate and compliant with the law. The website operator must be able to prove that the consent acquired from the site visitor adheres to the stipulated requirements.

Results of data collection on the backhaul fibre optic network in Slovakia

In June and July of 2022, the Authority reached out to and gathered information from entities (businesses) that own their own backhaul fibre optic networks. The Authority contacted 295 entities, out of which 190 responded with information regarding their ownership of such a network. Information on the backhaul fibre optic network was gathered using an Excel form published on the Authority's website, accessible at: <https://www.teleoff.gov.sk/jednotne-informacne-miesto-jim/>. The purpose of this data collection was to assess the presence of backhaul fibre optic networks in individual municipalities in Slovakia and to obtain forecasts regarding the coverage of municipalities with backhaul optical fibre from 2022 to 2024. The most recent data regarding backhaul optical fibre were based on information available as of the end of 2021.

The structured information consisted of a pre-filled section, which included data on the geographic areas, which the respondent cannot modify. It also included a section to be completed by the respondents detailing the current state of their backhaul fibre optic network as of the end of 2021, as well as their forecasts for operations in 2022, 2023 and 2024. The Authority instructed each entity to fill in the requested data as per the guide included with the request.

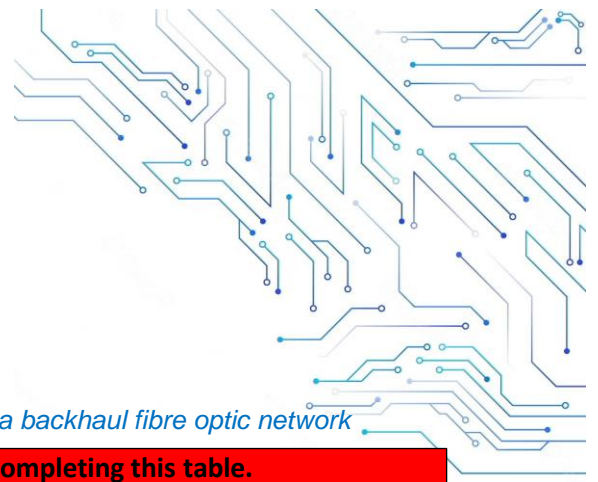


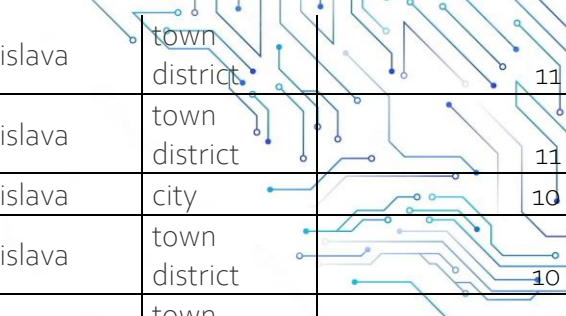
Fig. 1 Form for collecting information on the existence of a backhaul fibre optic network

Please read the instructions in the manual carefully before completing this table.									
Information about municipalities in Slovakia					Existence and future projection of own backhaul network in the municipality				
					yes = 1, no = 0				
code of municipality	Name of municipality	District	Region	municipal status	to be commissioned in the future				
					present until 31 December 2021	until 31 December 2022	until 31 December 2023	until 31 December 2024	
7	511226	Ábelová	Lučenec	Banskobystrický	obec	0	0	0	0
8	557757	Ábovce	Rimavská Sobota	Banskobystrický	obec	0	0	0	0
9	503673	Abrahám	Galanta	Trnavský	obec	0	0	0	0
10	523399	Abrahámovce	Kežmarok	Prešovský	obec	0	0	0	0
11	519014	Abrahámovce	Bardejov	Prešovský	obec	0	0	0	0
12	512044	Abramová	Turčianske Teplice	Žilinský	obec	0	0	0	0
13	524158	Abranovce	Prešov	Prešovský	obec	0	0	0	0
14	505838	Adamovské Kochanovce	Trenčín	Trenčiansky	obec	0	0	0	0
15	520012	Adidovce	Humenné	Prešovský	obec	0	0	0	0
16	500020	Alekšince	Nitra	Nitriansky	obec	0	0	0	0
17	503029	Andovce	Nové Zámky	Nitriansky	obec	0	0	0	0
18	519022	Andrejová	Bardejov	Prešovský	obec	0	0	0	0
19	556220	Ardanovce	Topoľčany	Nitriansky	obec	0	0	0	0
20	525537	Ardovo	Rožňava	Košický	obec	0	0	0	0
21	526363	Armutovce	Spišská Nová Ves	Košický	obec	0	0	0	0
22	500046	Báb	Nitra	Nitriansky	obec	0	0	0	0
23	544060	Babie	Vranov nad Topľou	Prešovský	obec	0	0	0	0
24	509558	Babín	Námestovo	Žilinský	obec	0	0	0	0
25	518166	Babiná	Zvolen	Banskobystrický	obec	0	0	0	0
26	581623	Babindol	Nitra	Nitriansky	obec	0	0	0	0
27	514489	Babinec	Rimavská Sobota	Banskobystrický	obec	0	0	0	0
28	508446	Bacúch	Brezno	Banskobystrický	obec	0	0	0	0

When examining municipalities served by more than one backhaul fibre optic network, it becomes apparent that these are primarily regional and district towns, or urban parts of Bratislava, especially in western Slovakia (as of 31 December 2022).

Table 1 Municipalities with the highest number of enterprises with a backhaul fibre optic network

Information about municipalities in Slovakia					number of operators with a backhaul network
code of municipality	Name of municipality	District	region	municipal status	present
					until 31 December, 2022
					2022
508438	Banská Bystrica	Banská Bystrica	Banská Bystrica	city	15
529460	Petržalka	Bratislava V	Bratislava	town district	13
529389	Dúbravka	Bratislava IV	Bratislava	town district	11



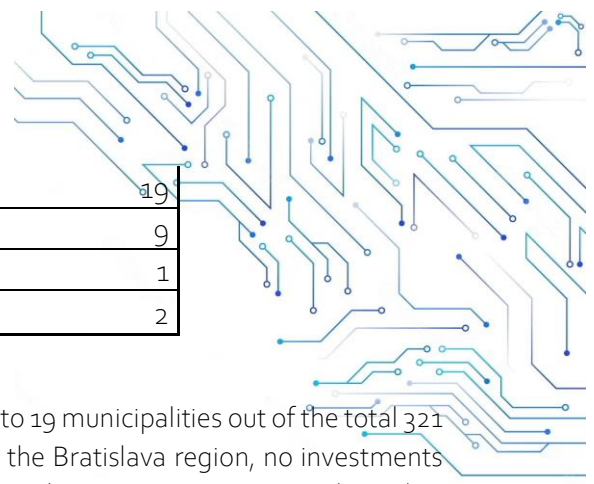
529354	Rača	Bratislava III	Bratislava	town district	11
529320	Ružinov	Bratislava II	Bratislava	town district	11
582000	Bratislava I-V	Bratislava I-V	Bratislava	city	10
529346	Nové Mesto	Bratislava III	Bratislava	town district	10
528595	Staré Mesto	Bratislava I	Bratislava	town district	10
529397	Karlova Ves	Bratislava IV	Bratislava	town district	9
529311	Podunajské Biskupice	Bratislava II	Bratislava	town district	9
529362	Vajnory	Bratislava III	Bratislava	town district	9
501433	Dunajská Streda	Dunajská Streda	Trnava	city	8
529419	Lamač	Bratislava IV	Bratislava	town district	8
500577	Mojmírovce	Nitra	Nitra	municipality	8
500011	Nitra	Nitra	Nitra	city	8
555991	Svätoplukovo	Nitra	Nitra	municipality	8
503665	Galanta	Galanta	Trnava	city	7
504378	Holíč	Skalica	Trnava	city	7
556483	Križovany nad Dudváhom	Trnava	Trnava	municipality	7
502031	Levice	Levice	Nitra	city	7
525910	Lipovník	Rožňava	Košice	municipality	7
524140	Prešov	Prešov	Prešov	city	7
513881	Prievidza	Prievidza	Trenčín	city	7
529494	Rusovce	Bratislava V	Bratislava	town district	7
508217	Senec	Senec	Bratislava	city	7
504203	Senica	Senica	Trnava	city	7
504815	Skalica	Skalica	Trnava	city	7

Upon analysing the findings of the surveyed entities regarding the expansion of the backhaul fibre optic network in 2022, the Authority discovered that 54 municipalities are scheduled to be covered. According to the respondents, these municipalities did not have a backhaul fibre optic network in 2021. Their distribution in the individual regions of the Slovak Republic is documented in Table 2.

Table 2 Number of municipalities with newly built backhaul fibre optic network (as of 31 December 2022)

region	municipalities with backhaul 2022
Banská Bystrica	10
Bratislava	0
Košice	11
Nitra	2

Prešov	19
Trenčín	9
Trnava	1
Žilina	2



In 2022, there are plans to extend the backhaul fibre optic network to 19 municipalities out of the total 321 municipalities in the Prešov region (data from 2021). However, in the Bratislava region, no investments are anticipated in 2022 to establish a backhaul fibre optic network in the remaining 6 municipalities that lacked such infrastructure in 2021. Overall, a total of 214 villages were expected to have a backhaul fibre optic network by 2022. Naturally, this also includes municipalities where the backhaul fibre optic network already existed in 2021, but further expansion of the infrastructure is planned.

The presence of the backhaul fibre optic network in 2022 is documented in Table 3. According to the information provided in Table 3, the backhaul fibre optic network is currently available in 2,013 municipalities in 2022, including individual city districts of Bratislava and Košice; this represents 68.73% of all municipalities in Slovakia. On the other hand, the network is not present in 916 municipalities, accounting for 31.27% of the total. When examining individual regions, the Bratislava region stands out as having the highest coverage of backhaul fibre optic network, while the Prešov region lags behind with the lowest coverage.

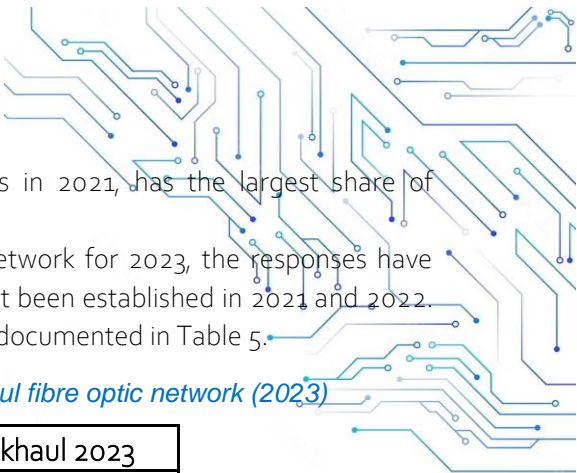
Table 3 Number of municipalities with newly built backhaul fibre optic network (as of 31 December 2022)

region	number of municipalities with backhaul	number of municipalities without backhaul	percentage coverage within each region
Banská Bystrica	319	197	61.82
Bratislava	84	6	93.33
Košice	313	149	67.75
Nitra	295	59	83.33
Prešov	363	302	54.59
Trenčín	195	81	70.65
Trnava	212	39	84.46
Žilina	232	83	73.65
Total	2013	916	68.73

Table 4 Percentage of municipalities without backhaul fibre optic network in all of Slovakia

region	number of municipalities without backhaul	share within the Slovak Republic
Banská Bystrica	197	21.51
Bratislava	6	0.66
Košice	149	16.27
Nitra	59	6.44
Prešov	302	32.97
Trenčín	81	8.84
Trnava	39	4.26
Žilina	83	9.06
Total	916	100

Table 4 shows the percentage of municipalities without backhaul fibre optic networks in all of Slovakia. The Bratislava region continues to have the smallest share, with only 6 out of 916 municipalities lacking a



backhaul fibre optic network. Conversely, the Prešov region, as in 2021, has the largest share of municipalities without this network.

Regarding the projected expansion of the backhaul fibre optic network for 2023, the responses have revealed an additional 56 municipalities where the network has not been established in 2021 and 2022. Their distribution in the individual regions of the Slovak Republic is documented in Table 5.

Table 5 Number of municipalities with newly built backhaul fibre optic network (2023)

region	municipalities with backhaul 2023
Banská Bystrica	18
Bratislava	0
Košice	14
Nitra	0
Prešov	11
Trenčín	2
Trnava	2
Žilina	9

In 2023, the plan is to build the backhaul fibre optic network in 18 municipalities within the Banská Bystrica region. These are municipalities where this network was absent in 2021 and 2022, but no such investment is planned in the Bratislava and Nitra regions. Overall, a total of 297 villages were anticipated to have a backhaul fibre optic network by 2023. Naturally, this figure includes municipalities where the backhaul fibre optic network was already present in 2021 and 2022 but is also part of the planned expansion to further enhance the infrastructure.

The final year of the forecast, which was processed, is 2024. The results indicated that there will be backhaul fibre optic network coverage in an additional 82 municipalities where the presence of this network was not declared between 2021 and 2023. Their distribution in the individual regions of the Slovak Republic is documented in Table 6.

Table 6 Number of municipalities with newly built backhaul fibre optic network (2024)

region	municipalities with backhaul 2024
Banská Bystrica	22
Bratislava	0
Košice	20
Nitra	0
Prešov	25
Trenčín	5
Trnava	2
Žilina	8

Once again, the Prešov region stands out with the highest number of municipalities where the backhaul fibre optic network was not present between 2021 and 2023. On the other hand, the situation is expected to remain the same as in 2023, with zero municipalities in the Bratislava and Nitra regions. Overall, it is anticipated that a total of 355 villages will have a backhaul fibre optic network by 2024. Indeed, the mentioned figure includes municipalities where the backhaul fibre optic network was already present in 2021 through 2023, but further expansion of the infrastructure is expected. The forecast concludes that

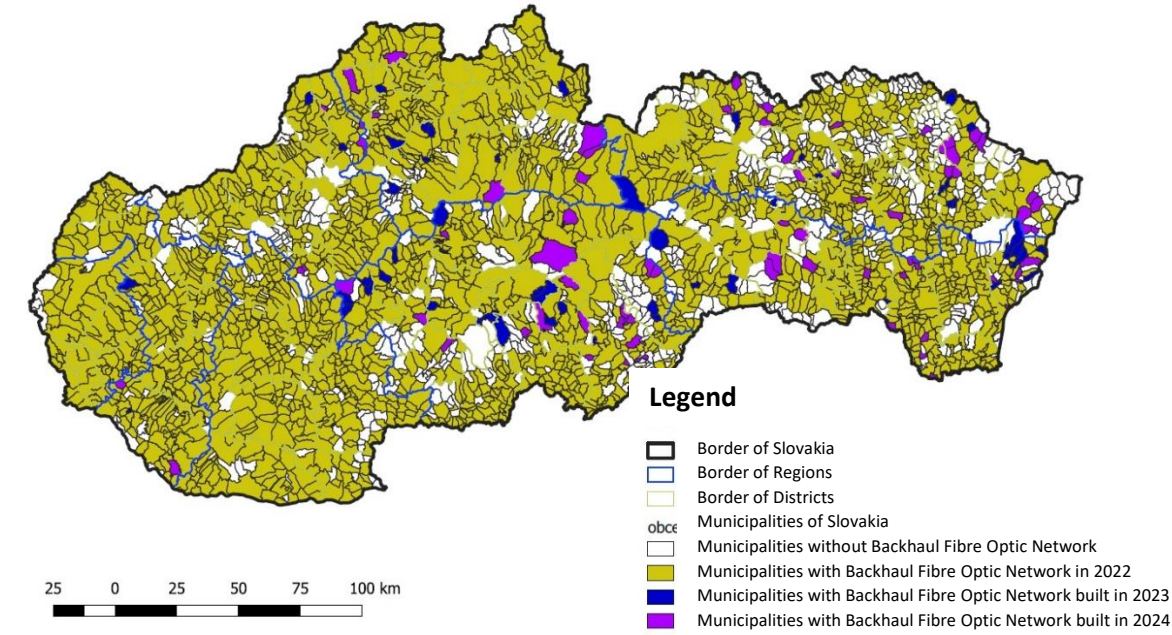
by the end of 2024, there will be approximately 778 municipalities in Slovakia where the backhaul fibre optic network will not exist. These data are valid as of 14 July, 2022.

Table 7 shows the number of municipalities without a backhaul fibre optic network in 2024 in each region of Slovakia.

Table 7 Number of municipalities without a backhaul fibre optic network

region	municipalities without a backhaul in 2024
Banská Bystrica	157
Bratislava	6
Košice	115
Nitra	59
Prešov	266
Trenčín	74
Trnava	35
Žilina	66

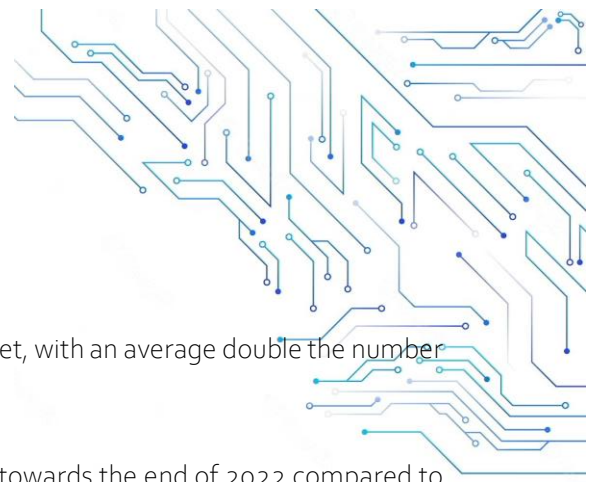
Fig. 2 Presence of a backhaul fibre optic network in Slovakia between 2023 and 2024



A graphical visualisation depicting the presence of the backhaul fibre optic network is documented in the map provided above. Municipalities where a backhaul fibre optic network is reported to be absent and there are no plans for its construction in 2023 and 2024 are marked in white. As observed on the map, the majority of these municipalities are situated in the Prešov region. Municipalities with an existing backhaul network for 2022 are highlighted in green on the map.

The blue colour on the map indicates municipalities where there is currently no backhaul fibre optic network, but there are plans for its construction in 2023. The purple colour represents municipalities without a backhaul fibre optic network until 2023 where, according to the responders, the network is planned to be built by 2024.

Mobile service market

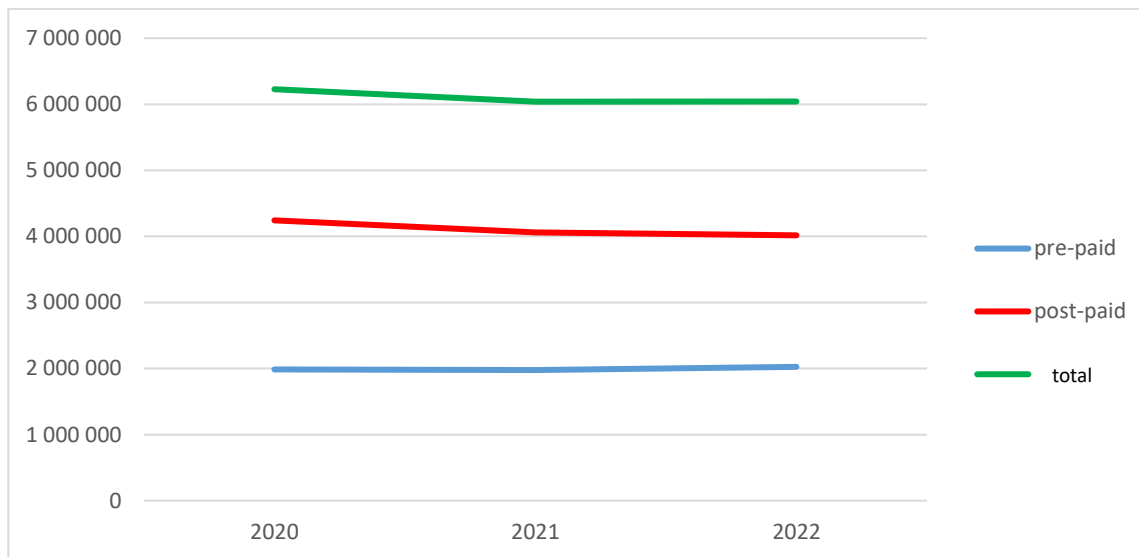


Mobile voice services

The post-paid SIM cards (tariffs) dominate the Slovak mobile market, with an average double the number of pre-paid SIM cards.

There has been a slowdown in the decline of post-paid SIM cards towards the end of 2022 compared to 2021. At the end of the year, the number of active post-paid SIM cards reached 4.016 million subscribers. A slight year-on-year increase is observed for pre-paid SIM cards. By the end of 2022, the number of active pre-paid SIM cards had reached 2.025 million subscribers. The total number of active post-paid and pre-paid SIM cards amounted to 6.041 million subscribers.

Chart 1 Number of active SIM cards (pre-paid, post-paid, total)



The number of ported numbers on mobile networks is experiencing a decline. A total of 723,602 numbers have been ported within the last three years. Between 2021 and 2022, there was only a minimal decrease in the number of ported numbers.

The market shares of mobile operators by the number of active SIM cards have evolved over time. The number of active SIM cards includes pre-paid, post-paid, and M2M cards (excluding data cards). In 2022, O2 Slovakia, s. r. o. claimed the leading position with a market share of 31.31%, surpassing Orange Slovensko, a. s. (30.85%) and Slovak Telekom, a. s. (29.38%) who held the 1st and 2nd positions in 2021, respectively. For the first time in the last three years (2020-2022), Slovak Telekom, a. s. has lost its position as the market leader in terms of the number of active SIM cards. SWAN, a. s., the fourth mobile operator, has consistently experienced year-on-year growth since 2020. SWAN, a. s., primarily operates in the market of pre-paid SIM cards. In 2022, it ranked second with the highest growth of pre-paid SIM cards among mobile operators compared to 2021.

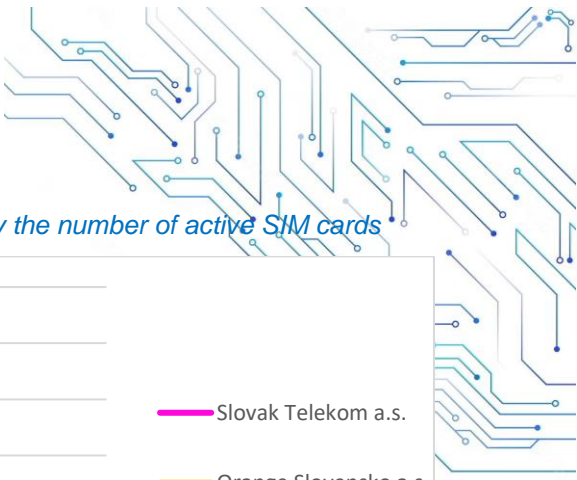
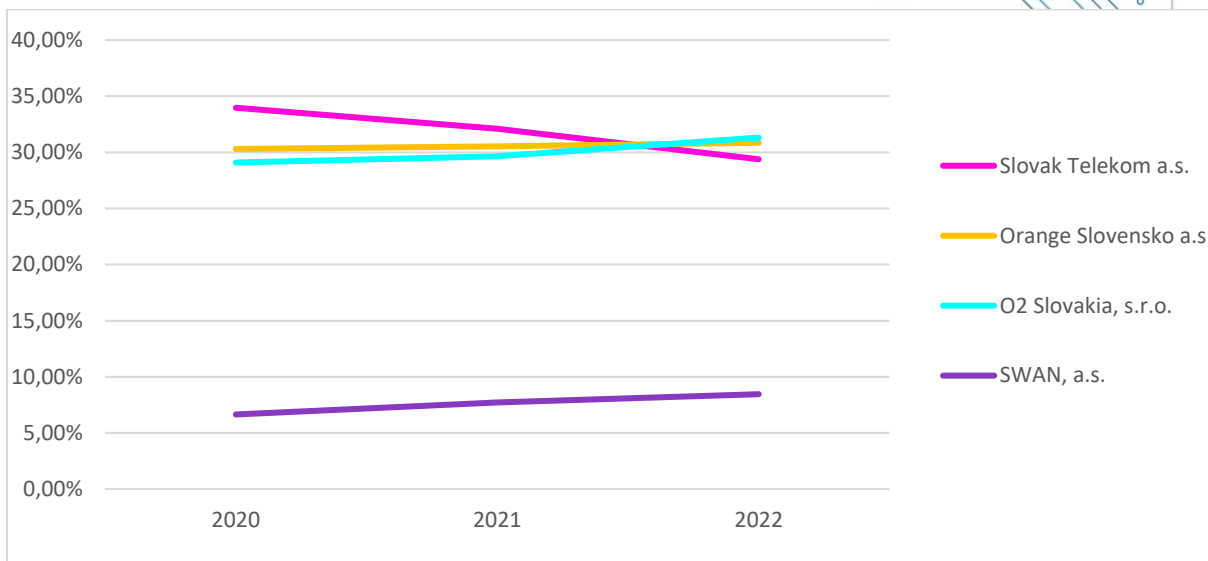


Chart 2 Development of market shares of mobile operators by the number of active SIM cards

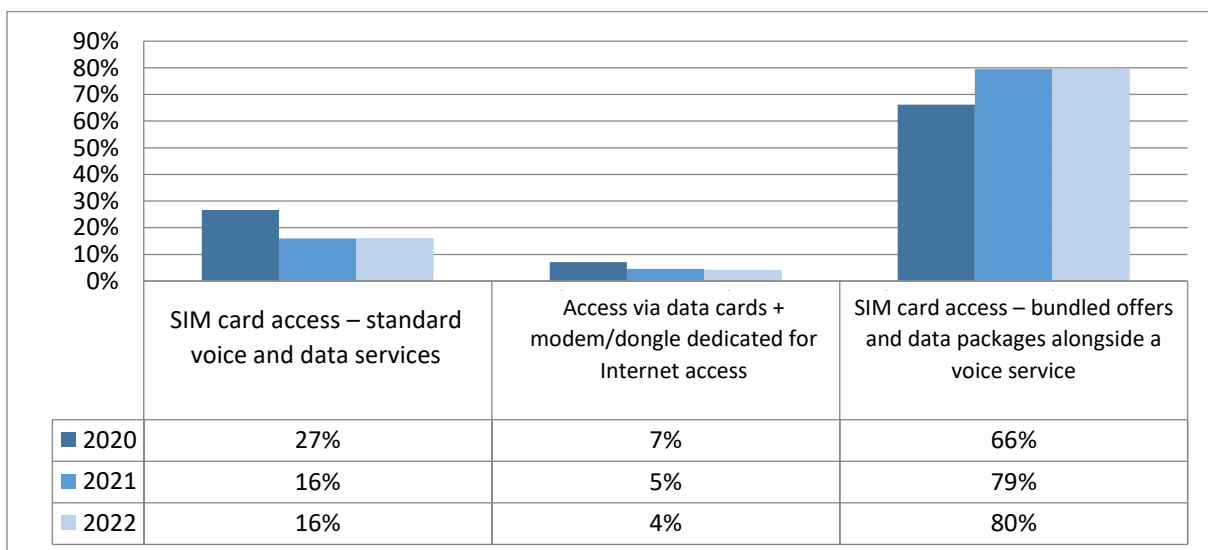


Mobile data services

Mobile broadband Internet has undergone significant growth in recent years, with the number of retail mobile Internet subscribers reaching nearly 5.3 million as of 31 December 2022. This figure is approximately 2.8 times higher than the number of subscribers with fixed Internet access. Mobile subscriptions encompass all connections utilising 3G or newer technologies and can be categorised into three groups:

- (a) Broadband Internet access via SIM card – standard voice and data services ("pay as you go")
- (b) Broadband Internet access via SIM card – bundled offers and data packages alongside a voice service
- (c) Broadband Internet access via dedicated data cards for Internet access only (typically inserted in a modem or a dongle)

Chart 3 Mobile broadband Internet access





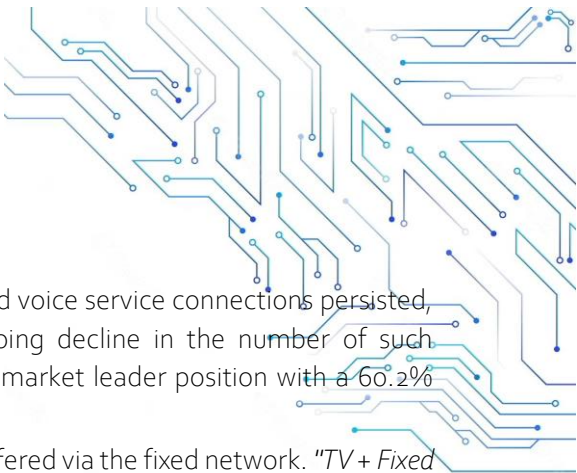
In Slovakia, mobile broadband access is facilitated through 3G, 4G, and 5G technologies, with minimal utilisation of 3G technology. Only access that did not generate any 4G or 5G traffic during the reporting period is categorised as 3G access.

As of 1 July, 2022, the new Regulation (EU) 2022/612 of the European Parliament and of the Council, dated 6 April, 2022, on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the European Union came into effect. Under this regulation, the provisions for international roaming are only applicable to countries within the European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA). Specifically, the new regulation reduces the maximum wholesale caps that operators can charge each other. For customers roaming under reasonable conditions, the regulation ensures that roaming continues to be charged at 'at home' prices, without any additional fees or charges.

The Authority conducts quarterly comparisons of the most affordable mobile operators' products that meet the criteria for each of the product baskets defined by BEREC (Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications). The Department analyses the price offerings from all 4 mobile operators and assigns a combination of their most affordable monthly offers to each product basket.

In Q4 2022, SWAN, a. s., had the most affordable mobile offers, with a total of 6, while O2 Slovakia, s.r.o. secured second place with the 4 cheapest product baskets. Orange Slovensko, a.s. had 3 and Slovak Telekom, a.s. had only one cheapest product baskets.

product baskets		Cheapest offers		
basket 1	0.5 GB	SWAN (4ka)	€ 2.00	GIGA data package (1 GB)
basket 2	1 GB	SWAN (4ka)	€ 3.00	GIGA data package (1 GB)
basket 3	2 GB	SWAN (4ka)	€ 4.00	2 x GIGA data package
basket 4	5 GB	Orange Slovensko / Slovak Telekom	€ 8.00	Prima Voľba / Predplatenka
basket 5	20 GB	O2 Slovakia / SWAN	€ 15.00	Dátová Radosť / Data tariff SLOBODA DÁTA
basket 6	30 calls plus 0.5 GB	SWAN (4ka)	€ 4.50	€ 0.05 x 50 min + data package GIGA (1 GB)
basket 7	30 calls plus 1 GB	SWAN (4ka)	€ 4.50	€ 0.05 x 50 min + data package GIGA (1 GB)
basket 8	100 calls plus 2 GB	Orange Slovensko	€ 8.00	Funfón SMART = 2 x 1 GB package + 2 x 100 min voice package
basket 9	300 calls plus 5 GB	Orange Slovensko	€ 16.60	Prima Voľba = 5 GB data package + 4 x weekly infinite calls
basket 10	300 calls plus 20 GB	O2 Slovakia	€ 20.00	Nekonečná Radosť
basket 11	30 calls plus 5 GB	O2 Slovakia	€ 10.00	Veľká Radosť
basket 12	100 calls plus 20 GB	O2 Slovakia	€ 20.00	Nekonečná Radosť



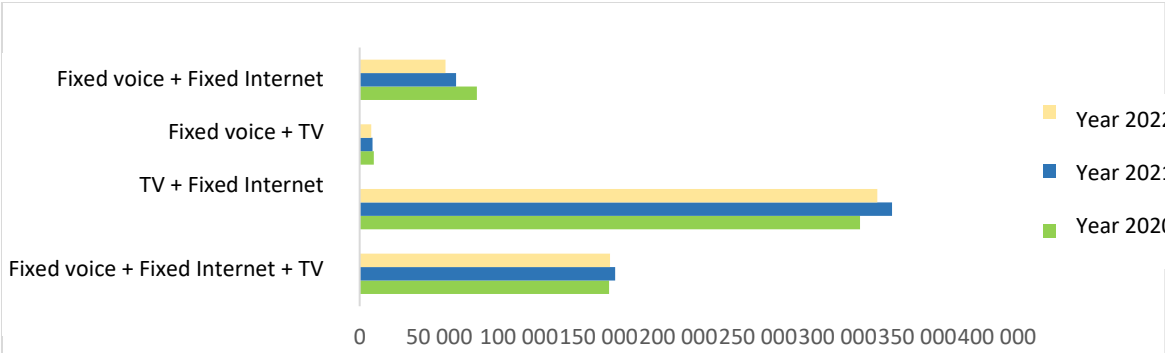
Fixed service market

Voice services in a fixed location

In 2022, the downward trend of declining interest in the use of fixed voice service connections persisted, particularly among residential customers. This reflects the ongoing decline in the number of such connections. Among the operators, Slovak Telekom a.s. held the market leader position with a 60.2% share of the total number of connections in 2022.

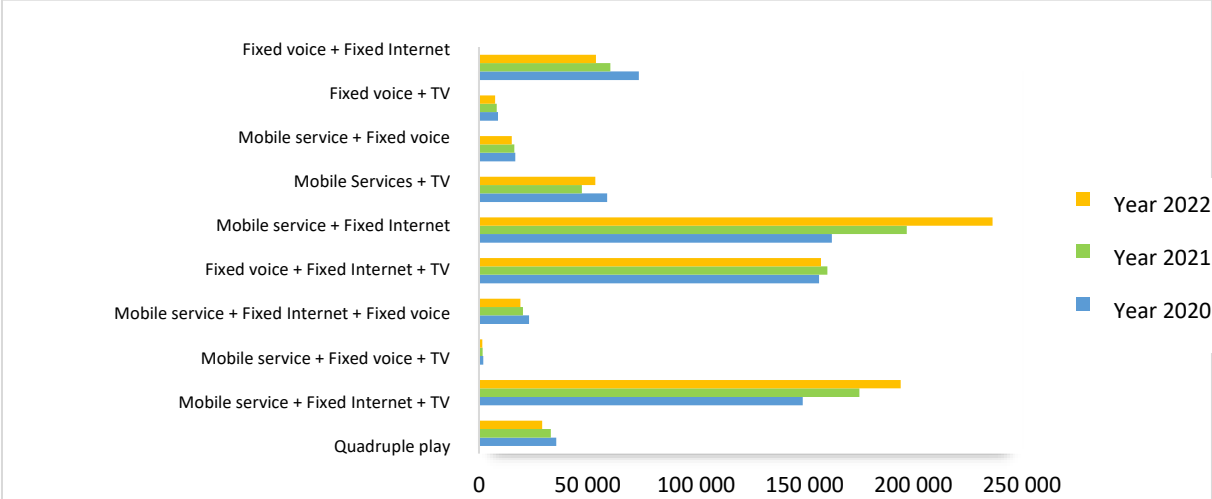
Between 2021 and 2022, there was a decline in all package types offered via the fixed network. "TV + Fixed Internet" remains the most popular package, although it experienced a 2.8% decline in popularity between 2021 and 2022. The declining popularity of the "TV + Fixed Internet" package is further supported by the increasing popularity of packages that include mobile services. The "Fixed voice + Fixed Internet + TV" package continues to be the second most popular package in the fixed network.

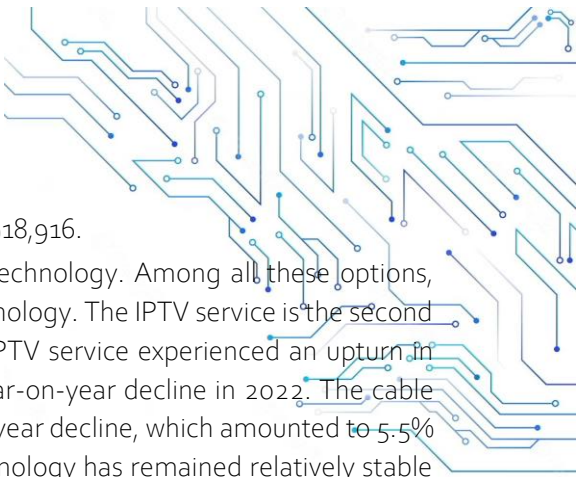
Chart 4 Evolution of fixed network packages by number of customers



The "Mobile Service + Fixed Internet" bundle has emerged as the most popular type of bundle with a phone service, experiencing steady growth in terms of subscribers and witnessing a notable increase of 20% between 2021 and 2022. Following the "Mobile Service + Fixed Internet" bundle, the "Mobile Service + Fixed Internet + TV" product has also seen significant growth, with a notable increase of 10.9%. The "Mobile service + TV" product also saw an increase (13.1%). The quadruple play package, which is provided by only one operator, has experienced a slight decrease in popularity since 2020.

Chart 5 Evolution of packages with a phone service (fixed and mobile) by number of customers



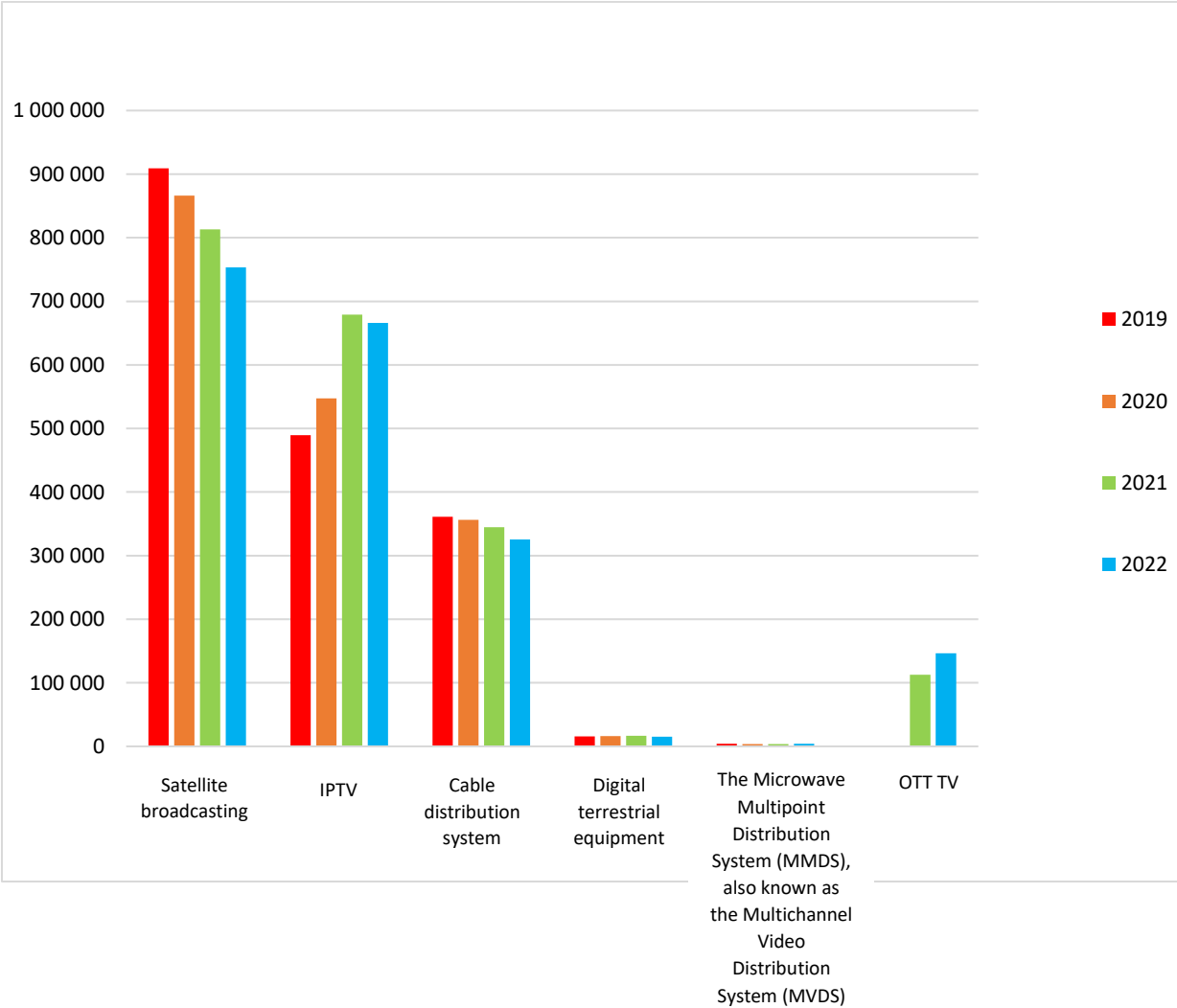


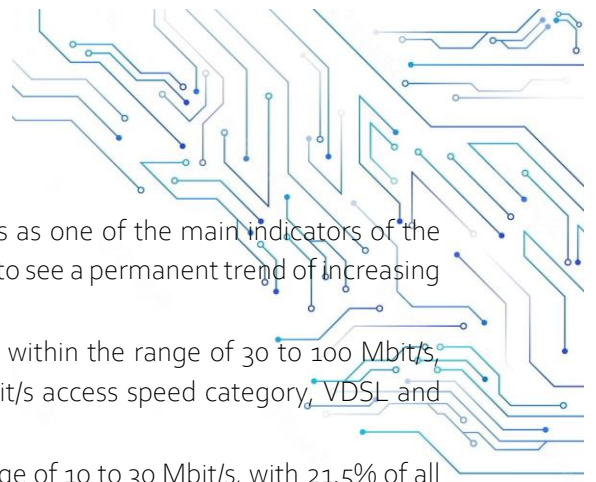
TV broadcasting

As of 31 December 2022, the number of TV subscribers reached 1,918,916.

Chart 7 shows the evolution of the number of pay-TV users by technology. Among all these options, satellite broadcasting continues to be the most widely utilised technology. The IPTV service is the second most popular type of pay-TV in terms of technology. While the IPTV service experienced an upturn in previous periods (2019 – 2021), there is a possibility of a slight year-on-year decline in 2022. The cable distribution system technology continues to show a slight year-on-year decline, which amounted to 5.5% between 2021 and 2022. Digital paid terrestrial broadcasting technology has remained relatively stable year-on-year, but its popularity in terms of the number of subscribers lags significantly behind the current types of pay-TV. The pay-TV market also includes OTT TV (Over-the-Top TV), which refers to the distribution of TV broadcasts over the public Internet network via streaming applications. The Internet access service provider may be distinct from the provider offering the streaming TV service. OTT TV technology has experienced growth, with its market share reaching 7.64% in 2022, and it is expected to continue increasing in the future.

Chart 6 Evolution of the number of pay-TV subscribers by technology





Internet access services in a fixed location

From the point of view of the provided speed of the technologies as one of the main indicators of the technical characteristics of the individual approaches, it is possible to see a permanent trend of increasing speeds for all the investigated technologies.

The most commonly used access speed for retail customers falls within the range of 30 to 100 Mbit/s, which is utilised by 29.7% of customers. Within the 30 to 100 Mbit/s access speed category, VDSL and FTTx technologies achieve the highest number of connections.

The second most common speed for retail customers is in the range of 10 to 30 Mbit/s, with 21.5% of all connections operating at this speed. This speed is commonly used when accessing the Internet via WiFi and FIX LTE technology.

In the speed categories above 100 Mbit/s, FTTx and CATV technologies have the highest representation, accounting for 42.1% of overall subscribers. At the end of 2022, speeds above 1 Gbit/s were utilised by 1.4% of subscribers, and this trend is gradually increasing. In addition to xDSL and FIX LTE, speeds above 1 Gbit/s are provided by all other technologies, with FTTx and CATV technologies accounting for the largest number of subscribers.

Chart 7 Evolution of the share of broadband Internet subscriptions by technology in the retail market between 2020 and 2022

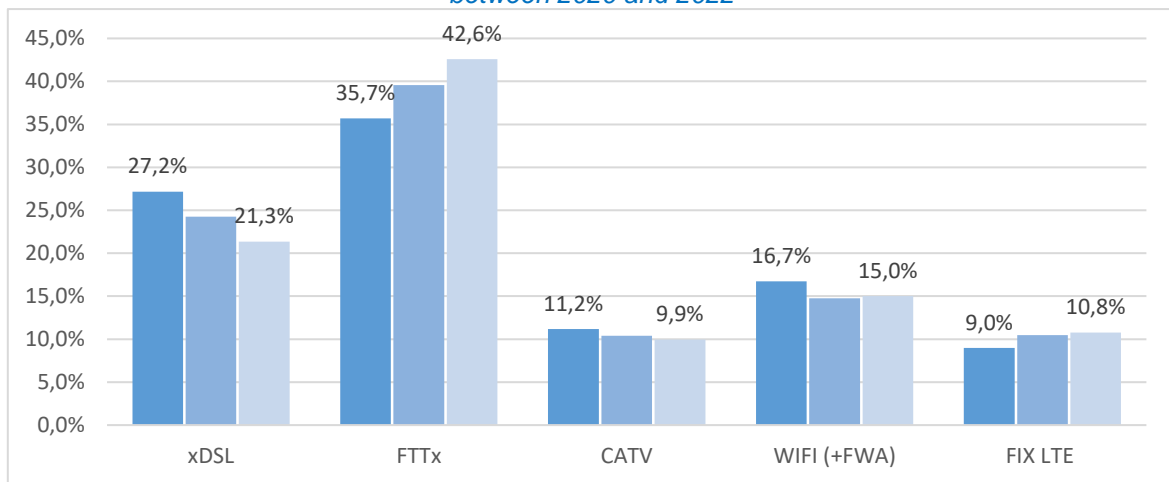
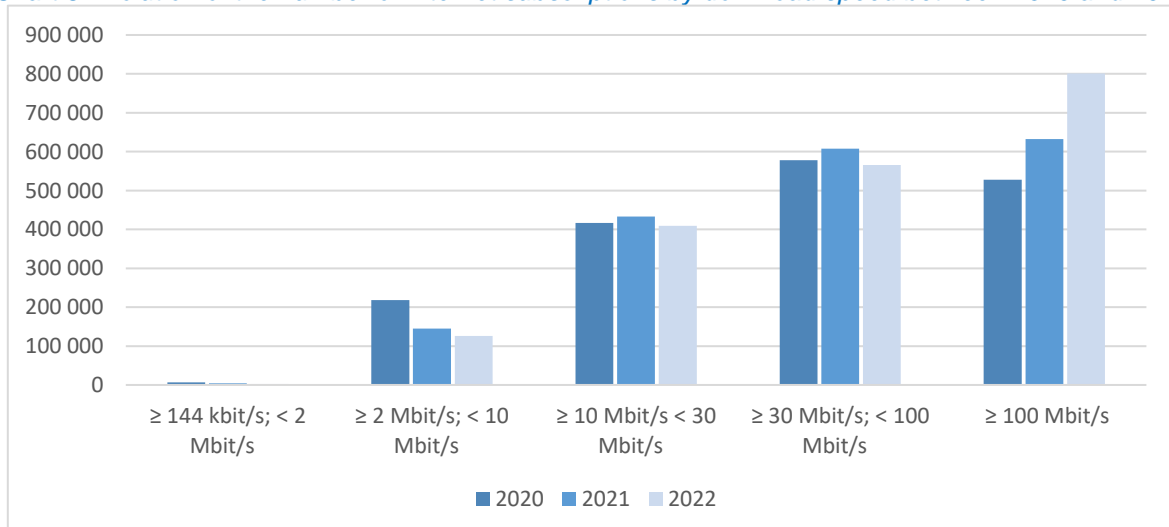


Chart 8 Evolution of the number of Internet subscriptions by download speed between 2020 and 2022





Pricing Department

Within its scope of competences and responsibilities, the Pricing Department conducts regular monitoring, analysis, and evaluation of pricing trends. This includes wholesale prices charged by undertakings for the provision and usage of telecommunications services, as well as retail prices paid by customers for telecommunications services.

The year 2022 was characterised by turbulent and unexpected changes, with various unforeseen costs impacting the telecommunications sector. Simultaneously, it was a year that presented new challenges and opportunities, leading the market to respond with innovative solutions due to resource limitations, one such example being the inventive supply in the area of access to physical infrastructure.

Wholesale broadband access services

As a result of the aforementioned circumstances, the Authority approved the price increase in the wholesale offer of broadband services provided by Slovak Telekom, a. s. Prior to the approval process, an analysis of economic replicability tests was conducted, which encompassed all retail services of Slovak Telekom, a.s., as well as all service combinations (packages) that include broadband Internet access. The calculation of economic replicability for a retail service takes into account all costs, including the prices of the wholesale portfolio for that specific product, as well as the price and non-price benefits provided to customers. Additionally, it includes all costs associated with marketing and sales activities related to the product.

Wholesale access products

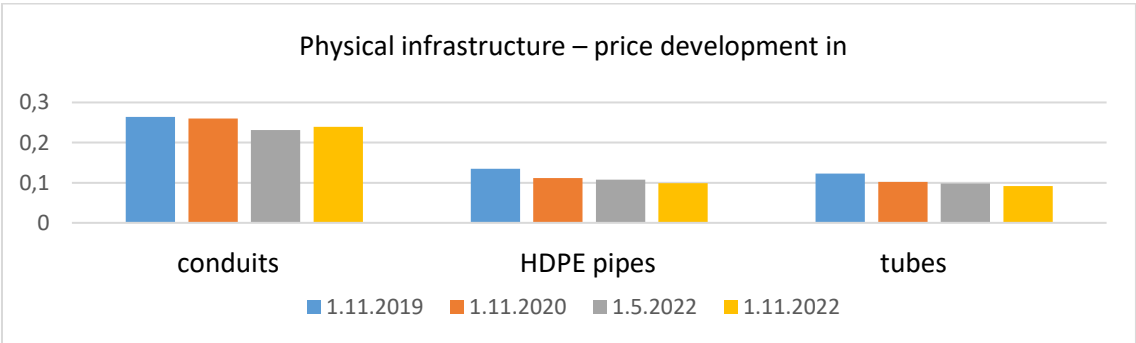
Based on the results of the economic replicability test, the Authority verified and approved the continuation of the downward trend in prices for Virtual Local Unbundled Access (VULA) services. VULA is a "technology-neutral" product, which means that access to Slovak Telekom, a.s. can be provided using either xDSL technology (legacy metallic access products) or FTTH (products provided on optical fibre), depending on the availability of the chosen technology.

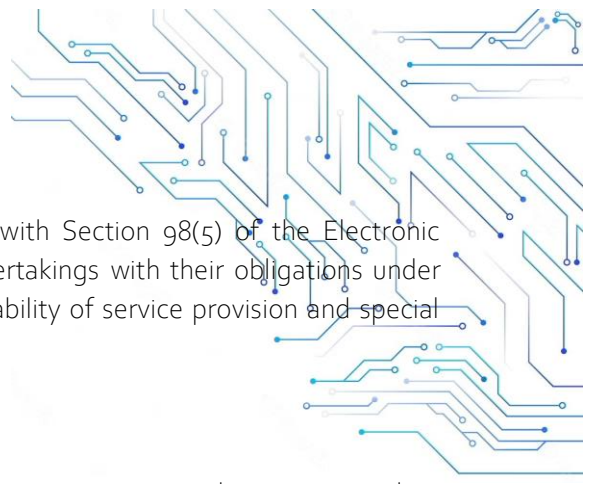
In the aforementioned wholesale market, there has been a reduction in the available VULA product portfolio; initially, there were 12 FTTH products provided in 2021, which have now been reduced to the current 5 products.

Due to the growing data consumption on the consumer side, the trend in wholesale supply is moving towards a smaller product portfolio. However, these products are designed to offer wider data capacity to meet the increasing demands.

Based on the obligations imposed and direct price regulation, as well as supporting documents, the Authority approved the prices for access to the conduits and physical infrastructure of Slovak Telekom, a. s. The prices are valid from 1 November 2022.

Chart 9 Development of rental prices for physical infrastructure





Universal Service

In July 2022, the Authority initiated a process, in accordance with Section 98(5) of the Electronic Communications Act, to assess the compliance of selected undertakings with their obligations under Section 82(4) of the same Act. This involved reviewing the availability of service provision and special terminal equipment for disabled users.

Net Neutrality

In February 2022, the Authority reached out to 10 selected Internet service providers to assess their compliance with the principles of net neutrality as mandated by European legislation.

In September, the Authority engaged in communication with providers of zero-rated products with the intention to terminate their provision. This action was taken as a result of the inadmissibility of such offers on the market, following the decisions of the European Court of Justice. The zero-rated product offering is set to be discontinued in the first quarter of 2023.

Network security and integrity / Personal data protection

In 2022, the Authority facilitated the dissemination of information received from prominent Slovak institutions involved in network security, integrity, and cybersecurity, such as NSA CERT and NASES. This information encompassed emerging security threats and risks in telecommunications networks, equipment and software applications, and was shared with all telecommunications companies registered with the Authority.

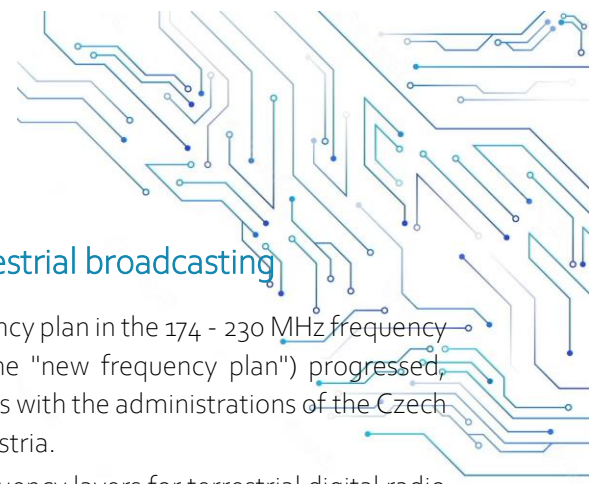
In 2022, 7 significant security incidents were reported. Out of the 7 security incidents reported, the majority of incidents (6 cases) were attributed to technical failures of equipment and systems within the network of the registered companies; in one case, the incident was the result of a deliberate attack.

In 2022, representatives of the Authority actively participated in regular ENISA conferences for all EU member states, where various projects were presented (SIM Swapping, 5G Control Matrix, Consumer Outreach Project), discussions in the framework of reporting security incidents, as well as other topics and presentations in the areas of ensuring the security and integrity of networks and cyber security.

Register of businesses

At the end of 2022, the Authority had registered a total of 984 companies providing electronic communications networks or services.

In 2022, based on the declarations provided by companies regarding the precise amount of revenues generated from the provision of electronic communications networks or services in the previous calendar year, the Authority issued decisions imposing administrative charges totaling EUR 1,467,510.44 under the general authorisation.



New frequency plan for radio digital terrestrial broadcasting

In 2022, the international coordination process for the new frequency plan in the 174 - 230 MHz frequency band for radio digital terrestrial broadcasting (referred to as the "new frequency plan") progressed, involving bilateral and multilateral online coordination negotiations with the administrations of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Poland, Hungary, and the Republic of Austria.

The new frequency plan encompasses the establishment of 7 frequency layers for terrestrial digital radio T-DAB. These layers are divided into 4 primary (core) layers and 3 secondary layers, as defined in the frequency allotment plan. Additionally, the frequency plan includes technical conditions for transmitters, which outline the implementation of the individual T-DAB layers as specified in the frequency assignment plan. The coordination process with the administration of the Republic of Poland and the complicated situation in Ukraine revealed that coordination in these cases is particularly challenging. This is primarily due to the fact that both administrations utilise the frequency band 174 - 230 MHz digital terrestrial television broadcasting, leading to a more intricate coordination process.

The Authority collaborates with national regulatory authorities of neighbouring countries to coordinate frequency usage in border areas. This cooperation includes partnerships with the Czech Telecommunications Authority (Czech Republic), the Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications (Austria), the National Media and Communications Authority (Hungary), the Office of Electronic Communications (Poland), and the Ukrainian State Centre of Radio Frequencies (Ukraine).

Alternative Dispute Resolution

In compliance with the provisions of Section 10(3) of Act No. 391/2015 Coll. on Alternative Dispute Resolution and on amendments to certain laws (hereinafter referred to as the "ADR Act"), the Authority hereby presents its annual report on alternative dispute resolution for the year 2022. In 2022, the Authority handled a total of 18 alternative dispute resolution (ADR) cases. Additionally, the Authority terminated 8 ADR proposals through notifications in accordance with Section 17 in conjunction with Section 20(1)(a) of Act No. 391/2015 Coll. on Alternative Dispute Resolution, specifically through termination by agreement. Four ADR proposals were rejected by the Authority based on its jurisdictional limitations. The Authority does not have the authority to resolve disputes or investigate complaints concerning contracts concluded outside the seller's premises or contracts concluded remotely (e.g. through telephone, Internet, online sales, etc.) as specified in Act No. 102/2014 Coll. on Protection in sales of goods or provision of services by virtue of a remotely concluded contract or a contract concluded outside the business premises of the seller, as amended. The Authority does not have the authority to resolve disputes or investigate complaints regarding specific goods, such as mobile phones, fax machines, modems and similar products. The Authority decided to postpone three ADR applications in accordance with Section 19(1)(b) of Act No. 391/2015 Coll. on Alternative Dispute Resolution. Additionally, two applications were postponed under Section 19(1)(c) of the same Act, and one application was postponed under Section 19(1)(e) of the Act. 17 disputes were related to electronic communications, and one dispute was related to postal services. When it comes to electronic communications, consumers commonly sought resolution for issues related to the following: changing the amount charged for services, activating services, addressing incorrectly billed penalties from the seller, correcting unauthorised changes to the contract terms, handling billing matters, and terminating contracts. In one case related to postal services, the dispute involved seeking reimbursement for postage expenses. The average dispute took 19 days to resolve. The individuals responsible for ADR collaborated and shared their experiences and knowledge with one another. They exchanged insights, information and options on how to effectively handle



disputes, from the initial stages to reaching a resolution or agreement. The individuals responsible for dispute resolution benefit from the Authority's extensive experience in handling out-of-court settlements of disputes under Act No. 452/2021 Coll. on Electronic Communications. Based on the Authority's ADR activity in 2022, it can be concluded that there has been an increased interest in alternative dispute resolution compared to the previous year, 2021. It is common for consumers to submit incomplete ADR proposals or be informed about the possibility of ADR without first attempting to contact the seller directly. The Authority plays a role in promoting consumer rights by instructing the consumer on the procedural procedure from filing a complaint to the possibility of exercising their rights in court.

Regulation of postal services

Registration of postal undertakings

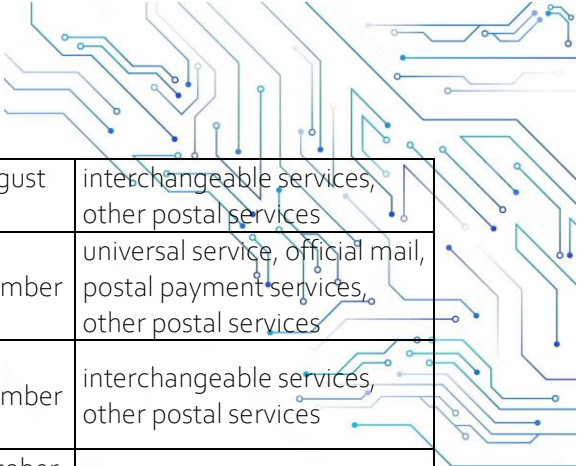
As of 31 December 2022, 24 postal undertakings were registered in the postal services market. Among them, one postal operator holds a postal licence as a universal service provider and also conducts postal payments. Additionally, five postal undertakings are registered as interchangeable service providers. However, it should be noted that not all postal undertakings were actively providing services in 2022.

In terms of the number of postal market participants, specifically postal service providers listed in the Register of Postal Undertakings, there have been minimal changes in the market. One postal undertaking ceased to be registered in 2022, while the Authority registered two new postal undertakings during the same period.

Universal service and postal payment services were provided in 2022 under Postal Licence No. 815/001/2012 issued on 15 August 2012, as amended, with validity until 31 December, 2022, which was held by Slovenská pošta, a. s.

Table 8 List of registered postal undertakings in the Slovak Republic as of 31 December, 2022

Serial number	Registration number	Registered name	Date of registration	Type of provided postal service
1.	1	<i>KOLOS s.r.o.</i>	30 April 2012	other postal services
2.	2	<i>TNT Express Worldwide spol. s r.o.</i>	30 April 2012	other postal services
3.	4	<i>INSPEKTA SLOVAKIA, a. s.</i>	2 May 2012	other postal services
4.	5	<i>GO4, s.r.o.</i>	2 May 2012	other postal services
5.	6	<i>Cromwell a. s.</i>	3 May 2012	interchangeable services, other postal services
6.	8	<i>Direct Parcel Distribution SK s.r.o.</i>	4 May 2012	other postal services
7.	9	<i>Slovak Parcel Service s.r.o.</i>	14 May 2012	other postal services
8.	10	<i>DHL Express (Slovakia), spol. s r. o.</i>	21 May 2012	other postal services
9.	11	<i>Express One Slovakia s.r.o.</i>	23 May 2012	other postal services
10.	14	<i>DER KURIER Slovakia spol. s r. o.</i>	15 June 2012	other postal services
11.	15	<i>GLS General Logistics Systems Slovakia s.r.o.</i>	20 June 2012	other postal services
12.	16	<i>Mediaprint - Kapa Pressegrosso, a.s.</i>	9 July 2012	interchangeable services, other postal services



13.	17	<i>Železničná spoločnosť Slovensko, a.s.</i>	15 August 2012	interchangeable services, other postal services
14.	18	<i>Slovenská pošta, a.s.</i>	3 September 2012	universal service, official mail, postal payment services, other postal services
15.	19	<i>FIEGE s.r.o.</i>	4 September 2012	interchangeable services, other postal services
16.	21	<i>SKYNET WORLDWIDE EXPRESS, s.r.o.</i>	11 October 2012	other postal services
17.	24	<i>GOIZ, s. r. o.</i>	21 March 2014	other postal services
18.	26	<i>Newton Tech, s.r.o.</i>	12 January 2016	other postal services
19.	27	<i>SLOVENSKÝ DORUČOVACÍ SYSTÉM, s.r.o.</i>	25 August 2016	other postal services
20.	29	<i>Tomáš Teniak - TENA OIL</i>	26 January 2017	other postal services
21.	30	<i>Packeta Slovakia s. r. o.</i>	16 July 2018	other postal services
22.	31	<i>Fusion trans s.r.o.</i>	11 February 2019	interchangeable services, other postal services
23.	32	<i>123Kurier, s. r. o.</i>	21 February 2022	other postal services
24.	33	<i>UPS Slovakia s. r. o.</i>	28 February 2022	other postal services

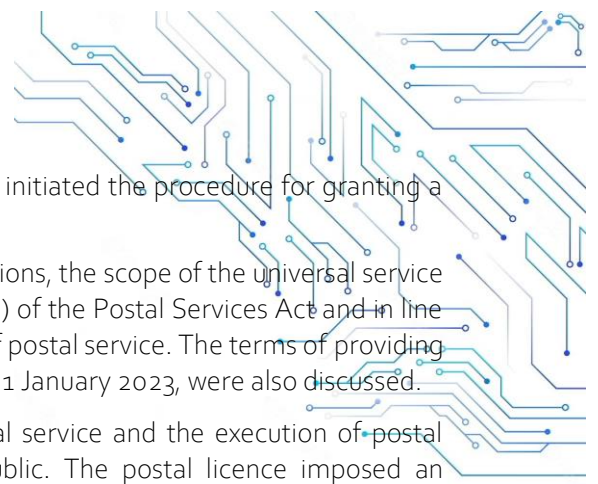
Universal service and the public postal network

According to the Postal Services Act, one of the main tasks of the Authority is to supervise that the holder of a postal licence provides the public with a universal service. The universal service aims to ensure the minimum satisfaction of the needs of all users of postal services in the territory of the Slovak Republic. It involves providing access and contact points of the public postal network, under equal conditions, in the specified quality, at a reasonable price, with at least one collection and delivery per day on every working day.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 41 of the Postal Services Act, the Authority determined the Universal Service Quality Requirements through the publication in the Bulletin of the Authority No. 3/2022 dated 7 April 2022. These requirements, specified in document no. 5919/ORPS/2022-7220 dated 31 March 2022, apply to the performance of postal payment transactions by the universal service provider, if this obligation is imposed by the Postal Licence.

The universal service quality requirements establish the principles for ensuring the quality of the universal service and define the essential characteristics and required values (quality standards) of the universal service. These requirements cover various aspects, such as territorial accessibility of access and contact points of the public postal network, temporal accessibility of access and contact points providing the universal service, transportation time of items, information requirements regarding the universal service, principles for handling complaints and claims, user satisfaction, and exceptions to the universal service.

In the Bulletin of the Authority no. 4/2022 dated 11 April 2022, the Authority published a call for applications for a postal licence pursuant to Section 45(1) of the Postal Services Act. Based on the



application submitted by Slovenská pošta, a. s., the Authority has initiated the procedure for granting a postal licence.

Pursuant to point 2 of the published call for postal licence applications, the scope of the universal service has been defined in accordance with the provisions of Section 3(2) of the Postal Services Act and in line with the service arrangements according to the proposed terms of postal service. The terms of providing the universal service and postal payment services with effect from 1 January 2023, were also discussed.

The postal licence was granted for the provision of the universal service and the execution of postal payment services throughout the territory of the Slovak Republic. The postal licence imposed an obligation to provide postal payment services under section 44(1)(c) of the Postal Services Act. In accordance with Section 47(4) of the Postal Services Act, the postal licence was granted for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2027.

The Universal Service Quality Requirements govern the operating conditions of the public postal network, the accessibility and density of its access and contact points, their operational hours, and the distribution timeframe for postal items that are part of the universal service and postal payment service.

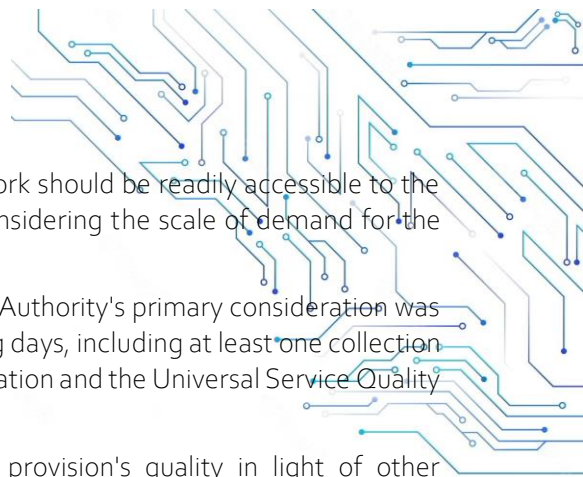
After reviewing and evaluating the documents submitted by Slovenská pošta, a. s., the Authority proposed development and quality indicators for the provision of the universal service under Section 47(1)(b) of the Postal Services Act. These indicators also include a deadline for their realisation, which corresponds to the validity period of the Postal Licence.

Under Section 44(2) of the Postal Services Act, a postal licence may be granted to an entity registered or conducting business in the Slovak Republic, provided it can demonstrate: (a) full legal capacity, integrity, and professional competence of the postal undertaking, (b) financial capability, and (c) technical and organisational readiness for operating the public postal network and providing the universal service, as stipulated by the Postal Services Act.

During the postal licence application process, the Authority determined that the applicant satisfies the requirement outlined in Section 44(2) of the Postal Services Act, establishing that it is based in the Slovak Republic, and also meets the criteria detailed in Section 44(5)(a) of the same Act. In the process of granting the postal licence, the Authority evaluated the submitted documents and data based on their content. Additionally, it assessed the applicant's ability to demonstrate and meet the criteria stipulated in Section 44(2) of the Postal Services Act, as well as the provisions detailed in Sections 44(3) through (7) of the same Act. The Authority has evaluated all the documents and data submitted during the administrative procedure. Based on these submissions and additional facts gathered during its official activities, the Authority has determined that the applicant has demonstrated compliance with the conditions under Section 44(2) of the Postal Services Act. Furthermore, the applicant has the technical, organisational, and personnel capabilities required to operate the public postal network and to provide the universal service.

In 2022, the universal service provider also continued the "Optimisation of the Postal Network" project. This project's second phase, launched in 2020, was based on recommendations from the evaluation of the first phase, which was conducted in 2019. According to Slovenská pošta, a. s., the "Optimisation of the Postal Network" project was a proposal to transform postal service delivery in selected areas. The goal was to enhance the efficiency of the public postal network's operations without necessitating the operation of post offices, while fully ensuring compliance with the postal licence conditions and quality requirements.

As part of the ongoing "Optimisation of the Postal Network" project and its further rationalisation, the universal service provider proposed to the Authority in 2022 to transform or, in other words, abolish 116 access points of the public postal network. When selecting access points (collection and delivery post offices, postal centres, and Partner post offices), the universal service provider primarily considered profitability. However, the Authority had to assess each proposal for the closing of access points based on the criteria set out in the Universal Service Quality Requirements. These include territorial and temporal accessibility of the universal service, the public's objective needs, and the objective possibilities for providing the universal service. The principles outlined in the Universal Service Quality Requirements



stipulate that access and contact points of the public postal network should be readily accessible to the public without undue difficulty. These principles also mandate considering the scale of demand for the universal service in an appropriate manner.

When assessing the proposed closure of post office branches, the Authority's primary consideration was to ensure daily access to postal services for all users during working days, including at least one collection and delivery per day. This was in line with both the applicable legislation and the Universal Service Quality Requirements.

The Authority also evaluated aspects of the universal service provision's quality in light of other modifications to the public postal network. This primarily involved examining changes to public post office operational hours, the network of post office boxes, and exceptions to the obligation of providing a daily delivery during working days.

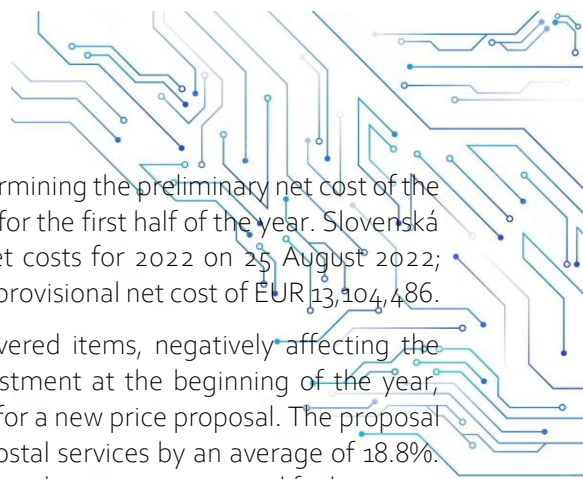
Price regulation and tariff assessment

Upon receiving a request from the universal service provider, Slovenská pošta, a. s., on 23 September 2021, the Authority approved adjustments to the prices of the universal service in national and international postal delivery, including the postal payment service, effective from 1 March, 2022. The Authority assessed the submitted price proposal and considered changes in the postal and financial services market. Notably, the persistent decrease in shipment volumes, the shift towards electronic forms of delivery, and the negative developments in the postal payment system were impacting Slovenská pošta, a. s. economic situation adversely.

Apart from price regulation, in 2022 the Authority also conducted activities pertaining to the assessment of tariffs in cross-border parcel delivery. This was based on Regulation (EU) 2018/644 of the European Parliament and of the Council dated 18 April, 2018, on cross-border parcel delivery services (hereinafter as the "Regulation") and the Commission Communication COM(2018) 838 of 12 December, 2018, on guidelines for NRAs on transparency and assessment of cross-border parcel tariffs under the Regulation and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1263. In 2022, the Authority also conducted a comparison of parcel and selected letter consignment prices abroad with those of other EU Member States. The Authority analysed the rates of nine categories of Slovenská pošta's individual parcels to European Union countries, as required for analysis under the Regulation. The result of the evaluation of the rates of the universal service provider was a specific order in which the rates of the universal service provider were placed within all evaluated EU countries, from the highest rate to the lowest. Following the analysis, the Authority concluded that the assessed rates of Slovenská pošta, when adjusted for purchasing power parity, ranked 9th to 18th among EU countries, i.e. not among the top 25% of rates in the European Union. These rates were not deemed excessive under the EU methodology and thus did not require further analysis.

In 2022, the Authority determined the net cost of the universal service for 2021 to be EUR 14,050,658, as per the decision made on 23 August 2022. The Authority's decision regarding the net costs was published in the Authority's Bulletin, part 7, on 25 August 2022. Simultaneously with the decision on the compensation of net costs, the Authority, in accordance with Section 58(6) of the Postal Services Act, issued decisions to increase the contribution to the Compensation Fund for postal undertakings that provided interchangeable services. This increase was based on the positive difference between the preliminary net costs and the net costs for 2021.

To facilitate the compensation of net costs related to the universal service, the Authority administers the Compensation Fund, which is maintained as a dedicated account held in the Treasury. In compliance with Section 55(3) of the Postal Services Act, the Regulatory Authority published the Revenue and Expenditure report of the Compensation Fund for 2021 in the Bulletin of the Authority, part 5, on 13 June 2022. In 2021, the resources from the Compensation Fund were utilised to finance the net costs associated with the universal service provided by Slovenská pošta.



As per the Postal Services Act, the Authority is responsible for determining the preliminary net cost of the universal service for the calendar year based on the data received for the first half of the year. Slovenská pošta submitted the proposal for determining the preliminary net costs for 2022 on 25 August 2022; subsequently, on 22 November 2022, the Authority determined a provisional net cost of EUR 13,104,486.

Due to a significant year-on-year decline in the volume of delivered items, negatively affecting the revenues of Slovenská pošta, a. s., despite the earlier price adjustment at the beginning of the year, Slovenská pošta, a. s. submitted a request on 14 November 2022, for a new price proposal. The proposal aimed to increase the prices of regulated services for domestic postal services by an average of 18.8%. The price proposal takes into consideration various factors, including the rise in energy and fuel costs, as well as the increase in the minimum wage and the associated growth in personnel expenses. The Authority reviewed the price proposal and started the price procedure and the legislative process for the adoption of a new price adjustment with expected effect from 1 March 2023.

Control activities

The postal service control activities conducted in 2022 prioritised the verification of compliance with the requirements for providing postal services, encompassing the universal service and postal payment services, in accordance with the Postal Services Act.

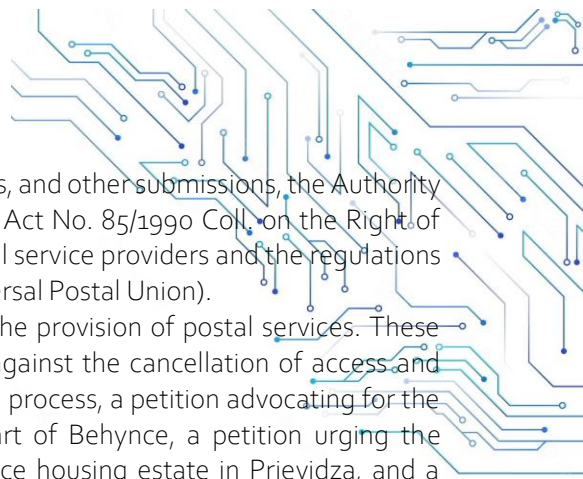
The inspections specifically focused on assessing the quality of the universal service and other postal services. These audits encompassed various areas, including:

- verifying compliance with the provisions of the Postal Services Act regarding the provision of postal services,
- evaluating the provision of universal service and postal payment services in accordance with the granted Postal Licence,
- ensuring adherence to the quality requirements for universal service as specified in the Universal Service Quality Requirements, including the fulfilment of the quality indicator for the delivery time of letter mail in the universal service area,
- monitoring the maintenance of separate accounts for costs and revenues related to the provision of interchangeable postal services in 2021,
- assessing the delivery of registered consignments as control consignments at selected post offices,
- reviewing the delivery of control parcels to self-service parcel terminals operated by postal undertakings,
- checking the proper handling of complaints in international postal services,
- assessing the delivery of postal items deposited in post boxes,
- providing information on universal service,
- verifying the implementation of measures specified in state surveillance reports and statistical surveys.

In 2022, a total of 36 inspections were conducted as part of state supervision of postal service provision. Furthermore, a total of 661 locations, which were either submitted by universal service providers for inclusion or were already listed as locations without delivery service or with limited delivery service, were examined to assess their territorial accessibility. Two audits of measuring systems were carried out to verify compliance with the universal service quality indicators, specifically concerning transport time. The first audit focused on measuring the transport time of 1st class letters, while the second audit concentrated on measuring the transport time of 2nd class letters and 2nd class registered letters.

Petitions, complaints and submissions

The Authority receives and processes petitions, suggestions and other submissions related to the provision of postal services.



When receiving, investigating, and addressing petitions, complaints, and other submissions, the Authority follows the relevant legislation, including the Postal Services Act, Act No. 85/1990 Coll. on the Right of Petition (as amended), as well as the postal conditions set by postal service providers and the regulations governing international postal traffic (such as the Acts of the Universal Postal Union).

In 2022, the Authority received a total of 11 petitions related to the provision of postal services. These petitions included requests for the preservation and opposition against the cancellation of access and contact points of the public postal network within the optimisation process, a petition advocating for the retention of a mailbox in the municipality of Veľké Ripňany, part of Behynce, a petition urging the expedited opening of Slovak Post, a. s. operations in the Kopanice housing estate in Prievidza, and a petition calling for the reopening of a branch of Slovak Post, a. s. in the municipality of Cabaj-Čápor. Out of the petitions investigated, 10 were determined to be unfounded upon assessment, while one petition was considered substantiated.

In 2022, the Authority received a total of 73 submissions regarding the provision of postal services. The most common reason for submissions and complaints from users of postal services is related to the manner and quality of postal item delivery. Examples include issues such as failure to meet the time limit for registered 1st class mail, non-delivery of express mail to the designated address, delivery of mail to an unauthorised recipient, failure to meet the guaranteed time limit for express mail, loss or damage of domestic and international mail consignments, as well as dissatisfaction with the resolution and compensation process following a complaint.

Standardisation and quality of postal services

In 1996, the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) established the CEN Technical Commission TC/331, specifically dedicated to postal services. Since 1 January 2003, the Slovak Republic has been a full member of CEN; consequently, the country is obligated to actively participate in the development of European standards in accordance with the rules set by CEN. The Slovak Republic is represented in CEN by the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology, and Testing. The Office takes responsibility for processing standardisation cooperation tasks with CEN specifically in the field of postal services.

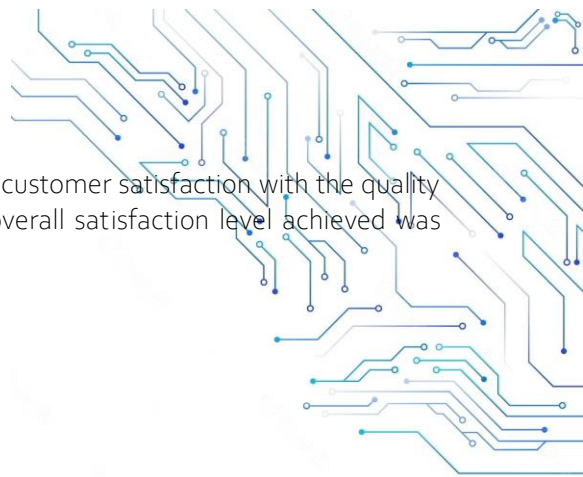
The Office, as part of its standardisation cooperation with CEN, undertakes various tasks, encompassing providing comments on draft European standards and other CEN documents, participating in the voting process for final drafts of European standards, collaborating in the evaluation of European standards' implementation, and contributing to the development of the framework and new tasks for technical standardisation.

Control of the quality of postal services is a crucial component of state supervision over the provision of postal services. The regulations and guidelines for conducting quality control activities in the postal services sector are outlined in a collection of European standards dedicated to postal service quality. EN 13850 is binding on all EU countries. The Authority is responsible for providing methodological supervision over every measurement of universal service quality, specifically pertaining to transport time. Furthermore, the Authority approves the methodology for each measurement, aligning it with the European standards EN 13850 and EN 14508.

The Authority has established standards for the universal service provider regarding the timeframes for performing the universal service in relation to the transportation of postal items within the scope of the universal service. For the year 2022, the quality standards set for all categories of universal service shipments were as follows: 93% of shipments were expected to be delivered within the designated transport time, and 99% of shipments were expected to be delivered within twice the transport time. The measurements of transport time for postal services are conducted by an independent institution.

In 2022, the transport time for 1st class letters, 2nd class letters, and 2nd class registered letters was measured. The measured quality standards for the respective categories in 2022 were as follows: 94.43% for 1st class letters, 92.23% for 2nd class letters, and 94.82% for 2nd class registered letters.

In 2022, an independent institution conducted a measurement of customer satisfaction with the quality of the universal service provided by Slovenská pošta, a. s. The overall satisfaction level achieved was 67.89%.



ECONOMIC PART

Management of state budget resources

Breakdown of binding state budget indicators for 2022

/EUR/

Indicator	Approved budget as of 1 January 2022	Revised budget as of 31 December 2022
1. Revenue	33,179,900.00	33,179,900.00
Total revenue	33,179,900.00	33,179,900.00
2. Current expenditure (600)	6,420,640.00	7,959,648.65
2.1. Wages and salaries (610)	3,494,135.00	3,941,038.00
2.2. Insurance premiums and contributions	1,221,200.00	1,449,892.32
2.3. Goods and services (630)	1,660,290.00	2,502,373.33
2.4. Current Transfers (640)	45,015.00	66,345.00
3. Capital expenditure (700)	309,200.00	653,683.09
Total expenditure	6,729,840.00	8,613,331.74
FK 04.6.0 Communication		



REVENUE

Non-tax revenue of the Authority

The Authority generates significant revenues primarily from various sources, including one-off payments for frequencies allocated to telecommunications operators, fines for regulatory violations, administrative fees related to the notification obligation, revenues from assigned numbers, and other non-tax revenues.

/EUR/

Approved budget	Revised budget	Actual result	Percentage used
33,179,900.00	33,179,900.00	52,261,725.18	157.51

The Authority contributed a total revenue of **EUR 52,261,725.18** to the State budget, surpassing the approved revenue indicator by **EUR 19,081,825.18**.

Breakdown of revenue by type of activity as of 31 December, 2022

Type of activity	Revenue in EUR
Amateur radio service	138.00
FM analogue radio	42,976.83
Payments for frequencies	50,096,377.55
• of which one-off payments	36,259,500.00
Total for frequency management	50,139,492.38
Notification obligation	1,467,510.44
Assigned numbers	499,373.63
Total for regulation of electronic communication	1,966,884.07
Total for sales of products and services	52,106,376.45
Income from business and ownership of property	1,664.24
Other non-tax revenue	1,013.29
Revenue from infringements (fines)	152,671.20
Total non-tax revenue:	52,261,725.18

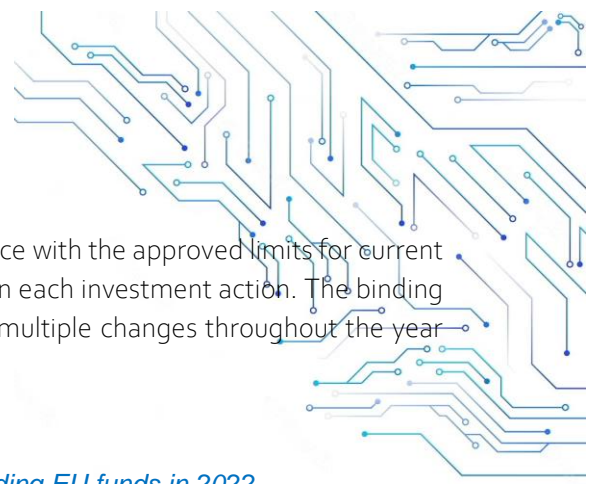


The one-off reimbursements made by the operators consisted of the following components:

No.	Undertaking	Amount in EUR
1	O2 Slovakia, s. r. o.	8,000,000.00
2	Orange Slovensko, a. s.	8,816,500.00
3	Slovak Telekom, a. s.	3,843,000.00
4	SWAN, a. s.	3,600,000.00
5	Orange Slovensko, a. s.	4,000,000.00
6	O2 Slovakia, s. r. o.	4,000,000.00
7	Slovak Telekom, a. s.	4,000,000.00
Total		36,259,500.00

In 2020, the Authority conducted a tender procedure to allocate frequencies from the 700 MHz, 900 MHz, and 1800 MHz frequency bands. The tender procedure was conducted through a multi-band auction, which is an electronic auction involving multiple frequency bands simultaneously. The allocated frequencies, particularly in the primary frequency band of 700 MHz, were designated for the construction of 5G networks. The operators made one-off payments for the allocated frequencies in the amounts specified in the table above (items 1–3), totalling **EUR 20,659,500**.

In 2022, the Authority concluded contract no. 3/2022/OSFS with e-FRACTAL, s.r.o. The purpose of this contract was to implement an electronic auction as part of the tender procedure organised by the Authority for granting rights to use radio frequencies in the 3.6 GHz frequency band. The operators participating in the electronic auction for the 3.6 GHz frequency band submitted lump sums (tender securities) in accordance with the amounts specified in the table above (items 4–7). The total amount of these lump sums was **EUR 15,600,000**.



EXPENDITURE

The Authority utilised the state budget appropriations in accordance with the approved limits for current expenditure in each budget category and for capital expenditure in each investment action. The binding targets for both current and capital expenditure were subject to multiple changes throughout the year 2022.

Drawing of current and capital expenditure excluding EU funds in 2022

/EUR/

Title of item and sub-item	Revised budget/limit	Drawing in 2022	Percentage used
610 wages, salaries	3,941,083.00	3,941,083.00	100.00
620 insurance premiums and contributions	1,449,892.32	1,449,892.32	100.00
630 goods and other services	2,502,373.33	2,488,332.17	99.44
thereof source 111	2,441,288.00	2,427,246.84	99.42
source 131K	61,085.33	61,085.33	100.00
640 current transfers	66,345.00	66,029.48	99.52
600 Current expenditure	7,959,648.65	7,945,291.97	99.82
700 Capital expenditure	653,683.09	653,649.31	99.99
thereof source 111	92,675.00	92,672.96	99.99
source 131J	351,450.82	351,419.09	99.99
source 131K	141,445.67	141,445.66	100.00
source 131L	68,111.60	68,111.60	100.00
Total expenditure	8,613,331.74	8,598,941.28	99.83

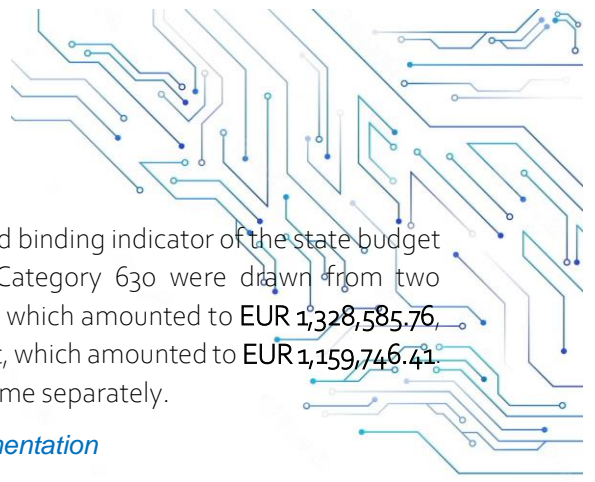
Current expenditure

610 Wages, salaries, emoluments and other personal income

The binding authorised indicator for category 610, initially set at EUR 3,494,135, was adjusted twice in 2022 due to budgetary measures implemented by the Ministry of Finance, for a total amount of EUR 446,903.

620 Insurance premiums and contributions

In conjunction with the increase in the budget for wages, salaries, emoluments, and other personal emoluments based on the aforementioned budget measures no. 10/2022 and no. 73/2022 of the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic, corresponding overruns were authorised for category 620 Insurance premiums and contributions to insurance companies. The overruns amounted to **EUR 129,537** and **EUR 26,655.32** respectively, matching the extent of the budget increase.



630 Goods and services

In this category a total of **EUR 2,488,332.17** was utilised; the adjusted binding indicator of the state budget for this category amounted to EUR 2,502,373.33. Funds from Category 630 were drawn from two programmes, namely 07T Policy formulation and implementation, which amounted to **EUR 1,328,585.76**, and 0EKoL Information technology financed from the State budget, which amounted to **EUR 1,159,746.41**. The Authority was provided with spending limits for each programme separately.

07T Policy development and implementation

/ EUR/

Economic classification item	Withdrawals
631 Travel expenses	31,243.63
632 Energy, water and communications	165,966.36
633 Materials and supplies	52,443.47
634 Transport charges	51,977.08
635 Routine and standard maintenance	38,228.05
636 Lease payment	66 695.55
637 Services <i>General, special and other services</i>	922,031.62
630 Total for the 07T programme	1,328,585.76

0EKoL Information technology funded from the state budget

/ EUR/

EC sub-programme/item	Withdrawals
0EKoL01 Internal support systems	4,416.68
635 Routine and standard maintenance	4,416.68
0EKoL02 Specialised systems	82,674.51
635 Routine and standard maintenance	82,674.51
0EKoL03 Support infrastructure	927,743.22
of which budget source 111	866,657.89
632 Communications	70,575.01

633 Materials and supplies	221,937.43
635 Routine and standard maintenance	5,263.75
637 Services	568 881.70
of which budget source 131K	61,085.33
637 Services	61,085.33
oEKoLoC LS information system	144,912.00
635 Routine and standard maintenance	144,912.00
630 Total for the oEKoL programme	1,159,746.41

640 Current transfers

A total of EUR 66,029.48 was expended in this category, and this amount can be further broken down as follows: EUR 30,428.98 was allocated for sickness benefits, EUR 14,298 for redundancy payments, and EUR 21,269.50 for severance payments.

Capital expenditure

Utilisation of capital expenditure

In addition to Source 111, capital funds were also utilised in 2022 from past sources 131J, 131K, and 131L under specific investment projects. Committed capital funds from previous periods, as defined in Section 8 of Act No. 523/2004 Coll. on the Budgetary Rules of the Public Administration, were released throughout the year 2022 based on requests submitted to the Ministry of Transport of the Slovak Republic, in accordance with the actual requirements.

As of 31 December 2022, capital appropriations were utilised as follows (underspent capital appropriations were committed for use until 2023):

/EUR/

Capital expenditure	Approved budget	Revised budget	Withdrawals	Difference
Total (111, 131J, 131K, 131L)	390,200.00	653,683.09	653,649.31	33.78
of which source 111:				
o7To3oH	28,800.00	21,155.00	21,153.80	1.20
oEKoLo1	180,400.00	18,507.00	18,506.76	0.24
oEKoLo2	0.00	53,013.00	53,012.40	0.60
oEKoLo3	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total source 111	309,200.00	92,675.00	92,672.96	2.04
of which source 131J:				

o7T030H	0.00	3,632.80	3,632.80	0.00
oEKoLo2	0.00	307,239.00	307,238.88	0.00
oEKoLo3	0.00	40,579.02	40,547.41	31.61
Total source 131J	0.00	351,450.82	351,419.09	31.61
of which source 131K:				
o7T030H	0.00	70,991.89	70,991.88	0.01
oEKoLo3	0.00	70,453.78	70,453.78	0.00
Total source 131K	0.00	141,445.67	141,445.66	0.01
of which source 131L:				
o7T030H	0.00	8,444.20	8,444.20	0.00
oEKoLo1	0.00	59,667.40	59,667.40	0.00
Total source 131L	0.00	68,111.60	68,111.60	0.00

a) Agenda o7T Policy development and implementation

IA 35518 Acquisition of special machinery, apparatus and equipment

In 2022, the Authority utilised chapter o7T030H funds in the amount of **EUR 47,163.60** for the procurement of special measuring equipment for OŠDEK supplied by Afro-Bohemia, s.r.o. The invoices related to this procurement were paid from multiple sources, as specified below:

Name of the investment project	Number	Source 111	Source 131K	Source 131L
Acquisition of special machinery, apparatus and equipment	35518	21,153.80	5,654.00	20,355.80
Total for all sources				47,163.60

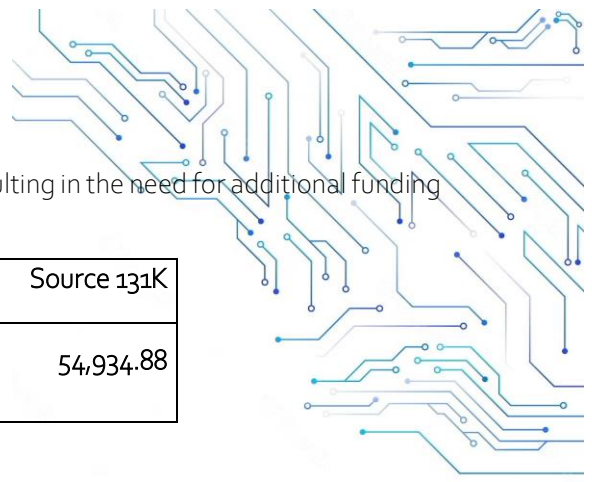
IA 25765 Procurement of passenger cars

In 2021, the Authority entered into Purchase Contract no. 74/2021/OŠDEK, based on which, in 2022, it made the payment for the purchase price of a Dacia Duster company car, intended for the regional office of OŠDEK in Žilina. The total value of the purchase was **EUR 22,480**. This amount was paid from three sources from previous periods, as follows:

Name of the investment project	Number	source 131J	Source 131K	Source 131L
Procurement of passenger cars	25765	3,632.80	10,403.00	8,444.20
Total for all sources				22,480.00

IA 42549 Reconstruction of the premises of the building Továrenská 7, Bratislava – server room

Contract No. 51/2022/OEaS was entered into between the Authority and LT MONT, s.r.o. The purpose of the contract was to deliver construction works for the establishment of a server room in the Authority's building located on Továrenská Street in Bratislava. The total value of the contract was EUR 63,200.18, and in 2022, construction works amounting to **EUR 51,946.88** were paid for. The construction works are scheduled to be completed in 2023. In relation to the implementation of the server room project, a



modification of the original implementation plan was required, resulting in the need for additional funding of EUR 2,988. The expenditure was drawn from one source:

Name of the investment project	Number IA	Source 131K
Reconstruction of the premises of the building Továrenská 7, Bratislava – server	42549	54,934.88

b) Programme oEKoL Information technologies funded from the state budget

- Chapter oEKoLo1 Internal administration systems

IA 43326 Internal administration software

In 2021, the Authority entered into Framework Agreement No. 62/2021/OIKT, the purpose of which was to provide services for the development and implementation of an internal information system accessible on the Authority's internal network. During 2022, the services were completed, and the final payment of EUR 44,220 was made.

Under the mentioned investment project, the Authority made a payment for the second part of the amount due under contract No. 24/2021/OEaS. This payment specifically covered the supply of a licenced software solution for accounts receivable management and double-entry bookkeeping. The total amount paid for this part of the project was EUR 22,164.40. The implementation of the new functionality "Financial distribution of reimbursements" for the SOFTIP PROFIT economic software was completed, and the payment for this specific component amounted to EUR 4,320.

Another capital expenditure of EUR 7,169.76 was allocated for the creation of a web application that enables certified authentication of cookies; this application is designed to assist citizens and businesses in verifying the proper handling of cookie alerts.

The total capital funds drawn down within the investment project amounted to EUR 78,174.16 and were obtained from the following sources:

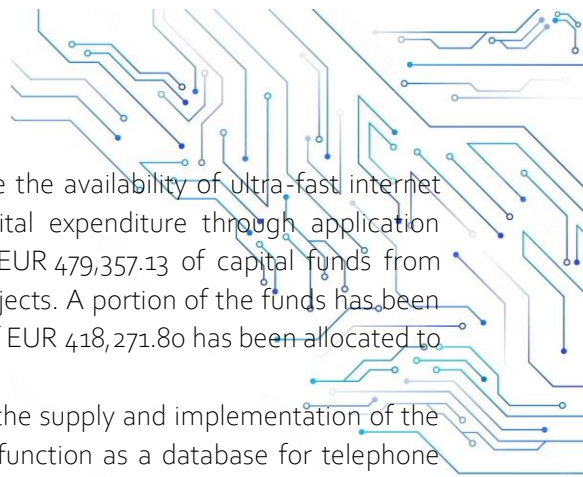
Name of the investment project	Number IA	Source 111	Source 131L
Internal support software	43326	18,506.76	59,667.40
Total for all sources			78,174.16

- Chapter oEKoLo2 Specialised systems

IA 34685 Acquisition of software

Within the OPII (Operational Programme Integrated Infrastructure), the Authority entered into a contract for the provision of a non-repayable financial contribution to support the implementation of the MSRŠD project. The contract was signed with the managing authority for OPII, which at that time was the Ministry of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic. In accordance with Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement, also known as the "Public Procurement Act", the Authority has entered into contract no. 34/2021/KPÚ with the contractor SOITRON, s.r.o.

The purpose of the contract is the creation and implementation of the MSRŠD project – specifically, the first part involving the development of a software solution. This project aims to enhance the regulatory



and state supervision of electronic communications and improve the availability of ultra-fast internet (broadband) in Slovakia. In 2022, the Authority received capital expenditure through application no. 4030/OES/2022-6288, which requested the repurposing of EUR 479,357.13 of capital funds from previous years for the refinancing of EU, MSRSD and ISESRU projects. A portion of the funds has been reallocated to current expenditure, while the remaining amount of EUR 418,271.80 has been allocated to capital expenditure.

Additionally, the Authority has entered into a works contract for the supply and implementation of the information system "Do Not Contact List Database", which will function as a database for telephone numbers provided by subscribers or users who wish to express their objection to receiving direct marketing calls. The total value of the contract, amounting to EUR 53,012.40, was paid in two stages according to the time and billing milestones specified in the works contract.

The total capital funds drawn down within the investment project amounted to **EUR 360,906.28** and were obtained from the following sources:

Name of the investment project	Number IA	Source 111	Source 131J
Procurement of software	34685	53,667.40	307,238.88
Total for all sources			360,906.28

- [Chapter oEKoLo3 Support infrastructure](#)

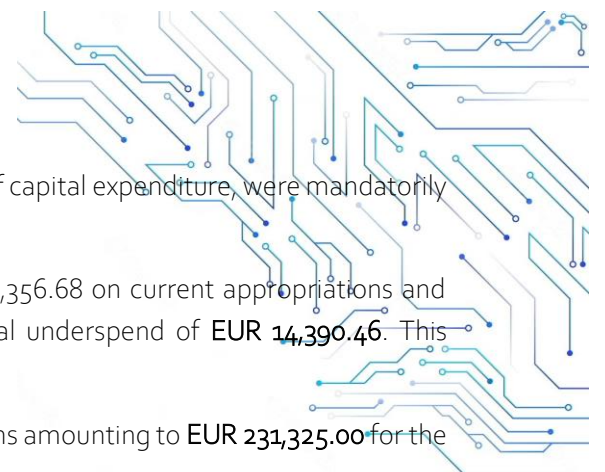
[IA 39742 Acquisition of IT and communications infrastructure](#)

To facilitate the implementation of additional activities within the MSRŠD project, the Authority entered into work contract No. 36/2021/KPÚ with the contractor SOITRON, s.r.o. The contract pertains to the second part of the creation and implementation of the MSRŠD project, specifically focusing on the hardware solution. This procurement was carried out in accordance with the Public Procurement Act. In 2022, the Authority had to utilise a portion of the capital expenditure of the state budget to procure hardware that was not initially budgeted for in the project. The amount allocated for this purpose was EUR 100,984.21, sourced from 131J and 131K.

Furthermore, the Authority acquired computer equipment, specifically racks and hard drives, along with installation work, totaling EUR 10,016.98. This expenditure was also sourced from the capital expenditure of source 131J.

The total capital funds drawn down within the investment project amounted to **EUR 111,001.19** and were obtained from the following sources:

Name of the investment project	Number IA	source 131J	Source 131K
Acquisition of IT and communications infrastructure	39742	40,547.41	70,453.78
Total for all sources			111,001.19



All the contracts mentioned above, which pertain to the drawing of capital expenditure, were mandatorily published in the Central Register of Contracts (CRC).

Regarding the allocated funds, the Authority underspent EUR 14,356.68 on current appropriations and underspent EUR 33.78 on capital expenditure, resulting in a total underspend of **EUR 14,390.46**. This amount was transferred to the revenue of the State budget.

The Authority submitted a request to commit capital appropriations amounting to **EUR 231,325.00** for the next budget period.

PROJECTS

Efficient public administration projects

Operational programme: Efficient public administration
Priority axis: 1 Strengthened institutional capacity and effective public administration
Sub-programme of programme
structure-chapter: 07ToBo1

Project name: Strengthening the exercise of regulation and state supervision in the fields of electronic communications and postal services and improving broadband availability

Duration of the project: 11/2019 – extended to 11/2023

Total Budget: EUR 4,058,803.98

Funds used: EUR 2,116,028.35

Project drawdown: 52.13%

The main activities of the project include the optimisation of sectoral policies in the field of electronic communications and postal services, as well as the remapping, monitoring, and methodology of state supervision.

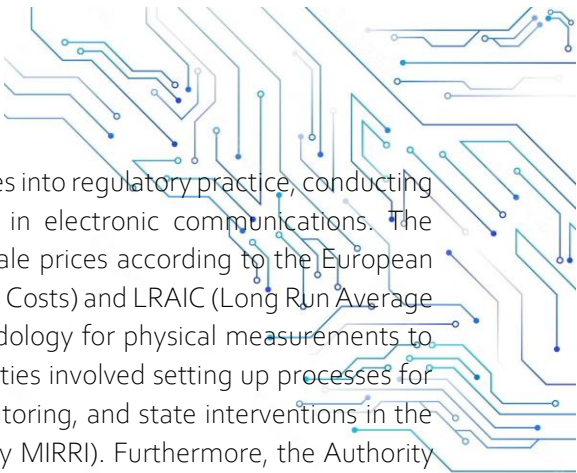
The national project encompasses a range of activities focused on the reform and enhancement of the state regulator's performance in the areas of electronic communications and postal services; it also aims to streamline the management of broadband services.

The project entails the following specific activities:

- Reforming the Authority's processes by implementing computerisation of the services provided by the Authority.
- Reforming the Authority's processes for the exercise of state supervision.
- Establishing processes within the Ministry of Investment, Regional Development and Informatization of the Slovak Republic.
- Optimising sectoral policies in the areas of electronic communications and postal services through comparative studies and the development of economic models necessary for effective regulation.
- Conducting training activities for civil servants to facilitate the application of procedural and methodological innovations in the daily work of the Authority and the Ministry of Investment, Regional Development and Informatisation of the Slovak Republic.

Material and financial specification of the funds to be reimbursed:

The interim payments received by the Authority in 2022 reimbursed the Authority for the implementation of the following activities and performances, in particular in the framework of the achievement of the project's objectives:



designing, optimising, and implementing state supervision processes into regulatory practice, conducting price and cost calculations, and implementing price regulation in electronic communications. The Authority also processed input parameters for calculating wholesale prices according to the European Commission methodology, specifically LRIC (Long Run Incremental Costs) and LRAIC (Long Run Average Incremental Costs). Additionally, the Authority prepared a methodology for physical measurements to determine the actual coverage at the household level. Other activities involved setting up processes for remapping white spot coverage, conducting methodologies, monitoring, and state interventions in the field of electronic communications (with final outputs approved by MIRRI). Furthermore, the Authority cooperated in the analysis, design and implementation of processes in the field of Broadband management.

In 2022, salaries and wages were reimbursed as follows:

Total for all sources		184,481.49
<i>out of which:</i>	<i>610</i>	<i>136,703.59</i>
	<i>620</i>	<i>47,777.90</i>

Material and financial specification of advance payment utilisation:

Advances received by the Authority were utilised for the payment of bills in accordance with the progress of contracts for the provision of advisory and consultancy services.

The services provided focused on process reform and implementation to enhance the efficiency of performance monitoring. It involved the fulfilment of two activities, namely:

- process reform and process implementation
- analysis, design and implementation of regulatory and governmental oversight processes
- analysis, design and implementation of processes in the field of electronic services of the Authority
- education and training of the Authority's staff

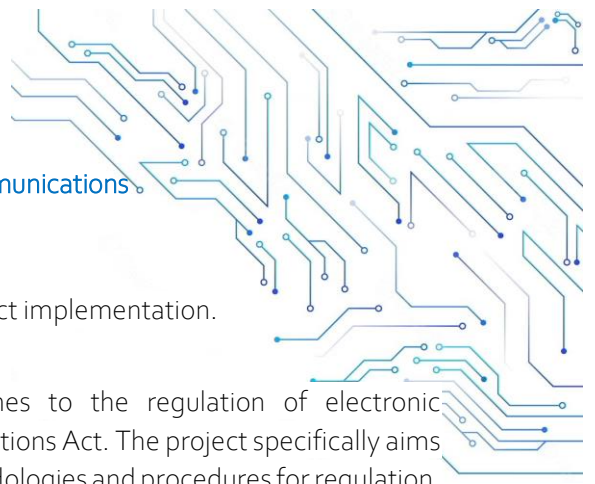
The contract aimed to provide expert and consultancy services to streamline and optimise regulation in the field of electronic communications and postal services. The implementation was divided into two activities, with only the first activity being implemented in 2022, which includes:

Optimisation of the regulatory framework and creation of economic models:

- comparative analysis of regulatory institutions in the EU/EEA
- economic model of regulated price for passive electronic communications infrastructure
- economic model of regulated price for electronic communications colocation

Invoices amounting to **EUR 1,213,330.38** have been paid for the performance of the contracts.

The paying agency was reimbursed with financial resources in the amount of EUR 61.42, and the Authority underspent EUR 111.74.



Project name: New approaches to the regulation of electronic communications

Duration of the project: 06/2022 – 11/2023

Total Budget: EUR 1,399,608.00

No funds were drawn down in 2022 due to the early stage of project implementation.

The **aim of the project** is to introduce innovative approaches to the regulation of electronic communications in alignment with the new Electronic Communications Act. The project specifically aims to optimise the current regulatory framework, develop new methodologies and procedures for regulation, and enhance professional competences in the field of electronic communications regulation. The project will introduce a new approach to regulating electronic communications markets by establishing an open platform for communication and engagement with relevant market actors, such as telecommunications operators. The Authority, in collaboration with the civil association Forum for Communication Technologies, which comprises major Slovak telecommunications operators as well as other professional associations and organisations, will establish a platform for pre-consultations. This platform will serve as a common ground for discussing interim results of market analyses in the field of electronic communications. The implementation of mutual communication with regulated entities in the process of market analysis represents a new approach for the Authority, recognising the importance of engaging and communicating with regulated entities to ensure the proper establishment of regulatory obligations.

Expected project results:

- A conceptual direction for the construction and sharing of communications infrastructure necessary for operating high-capacity networks.
- Effective regulation of electronic communications markets in line with the European Commission's 2020 Recommendation, the Authority's Decision, and other relevant regulatory frameworks.

Setting of technical and economic parameters for the universal service of electronic communications and the method of providing the universal service to all consumers in the Slovak Republic.



Projects from the Operational Programme Integrated Infrastructure

The Authority has concluded two contracts on the provision of non-repayable financial contributions with the Ministry of Transport and Construction of the Slovak Republic as the managing authority for OPII.

Project name: IS development project for electronic services of the RA

Priority axis: 7 Information society

Sub-programme of the programme structure: **oEJoBo1**

The project's main focus is the implementation of the Integrated System for Regulation and Supervision of Electronic Communications as part of a reform plan approved by the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic during the ninth meeting of the Evaluation Commission on 21 May, 2018: "The project aims to strengthen the regulation and state supervision in the fields of electronic communications and postal services, while also improving the availability of broadband services."

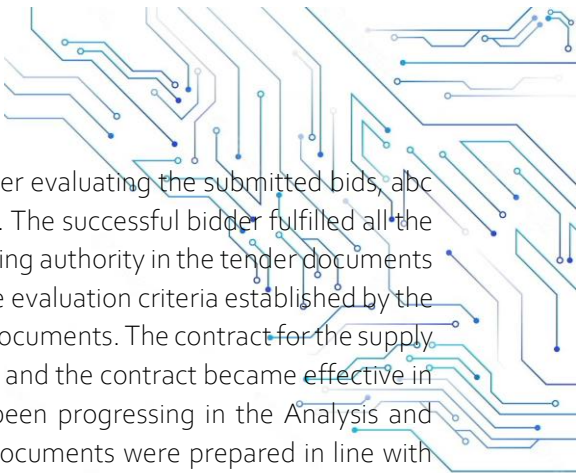
The ultimate goal of the project is to achieve the following:

- increase the quality, standard, and availability of eGovernment services for businesses and citizens,
- enable the modernisation and rationalisation of public administration through the use of information and communication technology (ICT) tools,
- improve the overall availability of data in public administration, with a particular focus on promoting open data principles.

The reform plan aims to bring about a significant strengthening of the Authority's regulatory and supervisory role, aligning with the priorities set forth in the European Commission's Digital Single Market agenda. It seeks to ensure the effective implementation of the European Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe.

The project serves as a continuation of the national project previously submitted by the Authority under the Operational Programme Effective Public Administration (OP EVS). It will be implemented in close cooperation with the Ministry of Investment, Regional Development and Informatisation of the Slovak Republic (MIRDI), which serves as a project partner. The aim of the approved plan is to streamline the regulation and state supervision of electronic communications and postal services and to support the overall deployment of ultra-fast connectivity in Slovakia. The project specifically aims to optimise the current regulatory framework, develop new methodologies and procedures for regulation, and enhance professional competences in the field of electronic communications regulation. The output of the project will serve as a starting point for the analysis and design of the IT environment.

The "IS development project for electronic services of the Regulatory Authority" will involve implementation of a new integrated information system. The application architecture will be based on the distributed component model. The objective of the project is to decrease the administrative burden on businesses and individuals, modernise interactions with citizens and entrepreneurs, and enhance the efficiency of public administration. By implementing the IS Development Project for e-services of the Regulatory Authority, the processes related to the adoption and enforcement of regulatory decisions will be streamlined, leading to improved enforceability and efficiency. The support of the entire process through ICT will facilitate the creation of a shared knowledge base within the Authority, resulting in an improvement in the quality and efficiency of decision-making. The implementation of this project aligns with the objectives of the reform plan, which include enhancing service accessibility and quality through trained staff and innovative methods, strengthening the analytical skills of the staff, and reducing the administrative burden on both staff and beneficiaries of the Authority's services.



The tender for the project's contractor was concluded in 2020. After evaluating the submitted bids, abc factory s. r. o. was selected as the successful bidder for the project. The successful bidder fulfilled all the participation conditions and requirements specified by the contracting authority in the tender documents and contract notice, also providing the lowest price according to the evaluation criteria established by the contracting authority in the public procurement notice and tender documents. The contract for the supply of the software was signed with the successful bidder in June 2021, and the contract became effective in August 2021. Since September 2021 the project activities have been progressing in the Analysis and Design implementation phase. In the context of these activities, documents were prepared in line with Decree 85/2020 Coll., which received approval from the project's Steering Committee. The most relevant documents are: The Project Initiation Document (PID), Requirements Catalogue, and Detailed Design Proposal (DDP), which represents the final, detailed technical solution description for the delivered project. Concurrently with the aforementioned activities, the Contractor was engaged in product development, along with functional and integration testing, which took place during the Implementation and Testing phases of the project. The project is set to conclude in 2023.

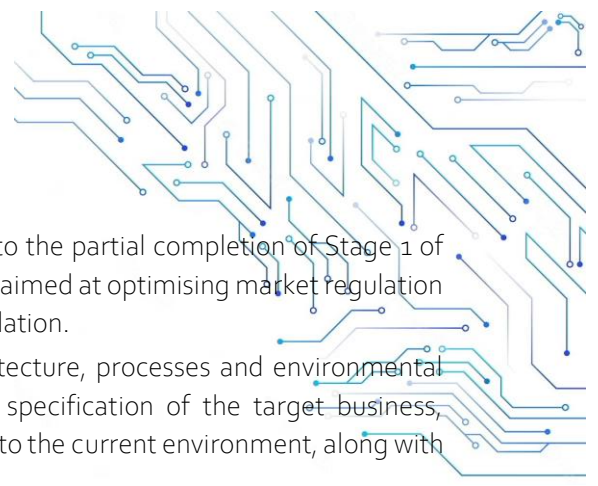
Material and financial specification of the funds to be reimbursed:

The Authority was granted interim payment funds as compensation for personnel expenses related to the following performances and activities:

- designing and specifying functional and technical requirements,
- approving and accepting management products and specialised project deliverables,
- evaluating the design of network-level changes within the existing infrastructure of the Authority,
- managing and supervising the implementation of cybersecurity solutions within the project,
- overseeing the effective utilisation of the Authority's pertinent technological assets and the adherence to best practice principles.

The following amounts were reimbursed for salaries, levies, and work contracts in the year 2022:

Total for all sources	80,256.27
<i>of which</i> <i>610</i>	<i>34,987.93</i>
<i>620</i>	<i>20,762.34</i>
<i>637,027</i>	<i>24,506.00</i>



Material and financial specification of pre-financing payments:

The pre-financing covered an invoice of **EUR 388,500**, attributed to the partial completion of Stage 1 of the contract. This stage involved creating an efficient ICT platform aimed at optimising market regulation processes and data management, as outlined by the relevant legislation.

The payment covered the analysis of the existing systems' architecture, processes and environmental requirements. Specifically, it funded the delivery of a detailed specification of the target business, Information System (IS), and technological architecture in relation to the current environment, along with the design of the testing methodology and detailed test scenarios.

All the funding provided has been used.

Project name: Monitoring system for regulation and state supervision

Operational programme: Integrated infrastructure

Priority axis: 7 Information society

Sub-programme of the programme structure: **oEJoBoz**

The aim of the national project, the Monitoring System for Regulation and State Supervision (MSRSS), is to bolster the regulation and state oversight of electronic communications and enhance the availability of ultrafast broadband internet in Slovakia.

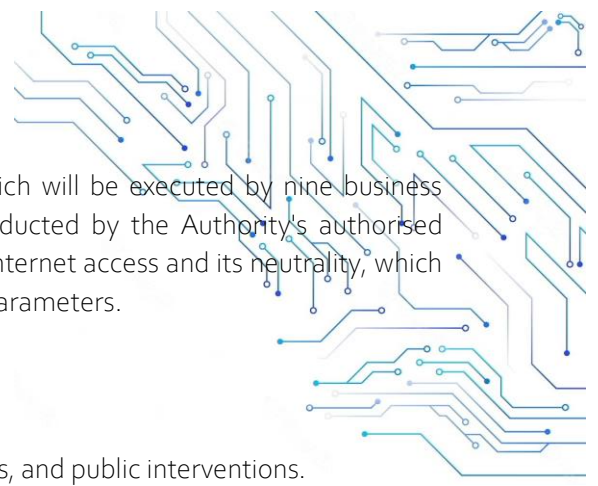
The fundamental components of the project include:

- enhancing regulation and government supervision of electronic communications, which leads to improved access to digital goods and services for consumers and businesses, shaping the conditions for successful digital networks and services, creating a European digital economy and society with substantial long-term growth potential;
- establishing a Broadband Competence Office (hereinafter BCO), which through its mandate will ensure that 100% of citizens have access to high-speed internet above 30 Mbit/s. It will also create conditions conducive to achieving a state where 50% or more of European households have internet connections faster than 100 Mbit/s.

The goal of the national project, the Monitoring System for Regulation and State Supervision (MSRSS), is to strengthen regulatory enforcement and state supervision of electronic communications, as well as to improve the accessibility of ultrafast broadband internet throughout Slovakia.

The primary objective of this project is to establish a comprehensive information platform that will support the BCO's management and decision-making processes in implementing broadband across Slovakia. The anticipated functional areas span a range of processes, from analysing gaps in broadband coverage to case consultations, managing investment activities, and overseeing governmental interventions in economically disadvantaged regions. A crucial and fundamental feature of the system will be the ability to verify the qualitative parameters of broadband internet coverage across the Slovak Republic.

Primarily, the Monitoring System for Regulation and State Supervision will be utilised by the BCO, whose competencies are shared between the Ministry of Investment, Regional Development and Informatisation and the Authority. The Monitoring System for Regulation and State Supervision will also be extensively used by the Authority itself, beyond the competencies it will gain within the framework of the established BCO. Enhancing the Authority's operations through improved data will increase its decision-making capacity in managing and controlling the frequency spectrum with respect to all spectrum users. This will subsequently reduce rule and legislative standard violations, as well as instances of mutual interference.



The system will offer three fundamental business functions, which will be executed by nine business services. In terms of technical measurements, they will be conducted by the Authority's authorised personnel following the methodology for measuring broadband internet access and its neutrality, which includes all necessary qualitative and quantitative measurement parameters.

Basic business functions of the system include:

- mapping and monitoring of broadband coverage,
- management of public consultations, planned investments, and public interventions.

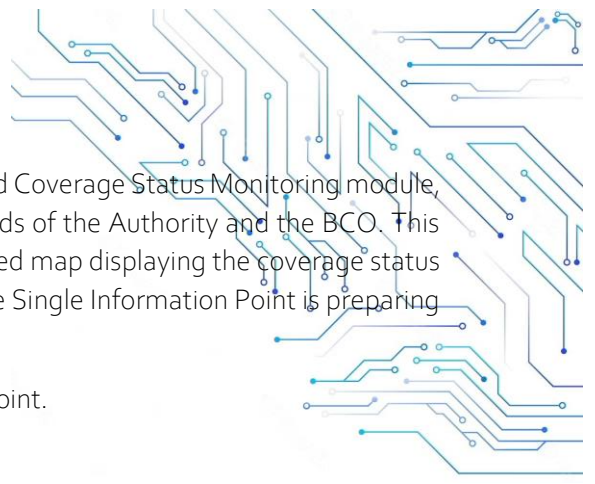
Basic business services that the system will provide:

- services for measuring the technical parameters of broadband internet,
- provision of information on the availability of broadband internet,
- collection of data on electronic communications for the BCO,
- management of investment in broadband internet development,
- reports on public consultations regarding the coverage of broadband in 'white spot' areas across the Slovak Republic,
- making open data and technical analysis outputs available to the BCO and the Authority.

The tender for the project's contractor was concluded in 2020. After evaluating the submitted bids, Soitron s. r. o. was selected as the successful bidder for the project. The successful bidder fulfilled all the participation conditions and requirements specified by the contracting authority in the tender documents and contract notice, also providing the lowest price according to the evaluation criteria established by the contracting authority in the public procurement notice and tender documents. The contract for the supply of the software was signed with the successful bidder in June 2021, and the contract became effective in August 2021. Since September 2021 the project activities have been progressing in the Analysis and Design implementation phase. In the context of these activities, documents were prepared in line with Decree 85/2020 Coll., which received approval from the project's Steering Committee. The most relevant documents are: The Project Initiation Document (PID), Requirements Catalogue, and Detailed Design Proposal (DDP), which represents the final, detailed technical solution description for the delivered project. Alongside the aforementioned activities, the Project Contractor focused on product development encompassing the implementation and integration of developed modules, construction of a test environment, and deployment of the modules within it, culminating in the successful completion of the project's Implementation phase. Concurrently, the Contractor conducted relevant functional and integration tests as part of the Testing phase. Activities related to the procurement of hardware, software, and measurement vehicles, all integral to project delivery, were also carried out. The project is set to conclude in 2023.

The Monitoring System for Regulation and State Supervision (MSRSS) aims to conduct a geographic survey of network coverage across the Slovak Republic and map the passive infrastructure. It is a comprehensive platform designed to support the management and decision-making processes of the newly established Broadband Competence Office (BCO) and to enhance the regulation and state oversight of electronic communications. Its main objectives are:

- support data collection processes from operators in monitoring and public consultation, i.e. to map the deployment of broadband in Slovakia;
- manage public consultations;
- enable the announcement of state interventions in the framework of strategic broadband deployment planning;
- and ensure monitoring of operators' investments in fixed and mobile networks.



The Single Information Point contributes to the Data Collection and Coverage Status Monitoring module, which entails gathering coverage data from operators for the needs of the Authority and the BCO. This process is repeated at regular intervals, and the output is an updated map displaying the coverage status as of a specific date, as well as an updated database. Currently, the Single Information Point is preparing for the test phase of the MSDSS project.

In 2022, 7,731 structures were reported to the Single Information Point.

Material and financial specification of the funds to be reimbursed:

The Authority received interim payment funds as a reimbursement for staff costs associated with the following tasks and activities:

- managing the project and all associated resources to create and deliver content,
- planning, organising, motivating, and monitoring the project team,
- providing administrative support to the project and finance manager,
- processing project monitoring reports,
- organising and coordinating project activities, including the RV.

The following amounts were reimbursed for salaries, levies, and work contracts in the year 2022:

Total for all sources		81,037.22
<i>out of which:</i>	<i>610</i>	<i>49,236.06</i>
	<i>620</i>	<i>20,812.36</i>
	<i>637027</i>	<i>10,988.80</i>

Material and financial specification of pre-financing payments:

From the pre-financing, invoices were paid for the fulfilment of contracts for the supply of software and hardware, the goal of which is to build the MSRŠD system as a complex information platform that will technically and procedurally support the management and decision-making processes of the Broadband Competence Office. Payment was made for Stage 1, "Analysis and Design" (software), and for the supply of hardware, which included Cisco network elements.

In total, invoices amounting to **EUR 1,665,771.11** were paid.

All the funding provided has been used.



INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

The Authority is a member of both BEREC (Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications) and the IRG (Independent Regulators Group).

BEREC, established in 2009 and launched in 2010, strives to foster independent, consistent, and high-quality regulation of digital markets for the benefit of Europe and its citizens.

The IRG, formed in 1997, is a consortium of European national telecommunications regulators (NRAs), whose purpose is to facilitate the sharing of experiences and views among its members on key issues related to the regulation and development of the European telecommunications market, particularly during the early stages of market liberalisation (under the so-called Open Network Provision (ONP) framework of 1998).

The Chairman of the Authority regularly attends both the BEREC Ordinary Meetings and the IRG General Assembly.

In 2022, BEREC celebrated its 50th Ordinary Meeting of the Chairpersons of the regulatory authorities, which took place on 10 and 11 March, 2022.

In view of the previous situation with the Corona virus (COVID-19), the organisers decided to continue some of the sessions online.

In addition to its regular agenda, BEREC has supported joint actions by Ukrainian and EU operators to ensure affordable connectivity for Ukrainian refugees.

The second meeting of BEREC and IRG was held in Cyprus between 8 and 10 June 2022, and in Salzburg between 6 and 7 October 2022. The last meeting of BEREC and the IRG this year was held in the Czech Republic on 8 and 9 December 2022.

The Authority collaborates with international working groups.

The ECC (Electronic Communications Committee) is the supreme regulatory body within CEPT that approves regulatory measures (decisions, recommendations) for electronic communications in Europe. Within the ECC structure, the Authority represents the interests of the Slovak Republic in the following working groups:

ECC/CPG – This group prepares CEPT's position on individual items on the agenda of the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23).

ECC/WG FM – The Spectrum Management Working Group

WGFM/FM 51 – This project team focuses on frequency bands for PMSE (*Programme Making and Special Events*) equipment.

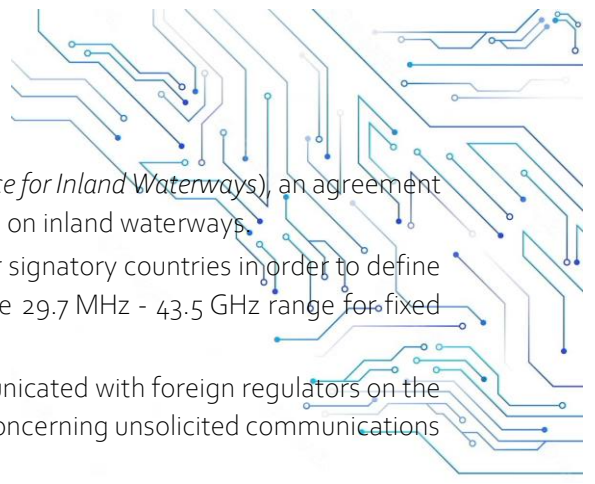
ECC/WG SE – This working group prepares draft technical guidelines on the sharing and compatibility of spectrum use by different radiocommunication services using the same or different frequency bands.

ECC/WG FM Civil/Military – This joint platform addresses spectrum issues from both civil and military perspectives.

ECC/PT₁ – Project Team 1 covers mobile and fixed services, mainly focusing on IMT, including compatibility studies, frequency band development, and preparation of the CEPT position paper for WRC-23.

The Slovak Republic also has representation in the RSC (Radio Spectrum Committee), which aids in the preparation of EU regulatory measures (implementing decisions, opinions, and statements) in the field of the frequency spectrum.

RSPG (Radio Spectrum Policy Group), a high-level advisory group composed of representatives from EU administrations that assists the European Commission in preparing frequency spectrum policy.



RAINWAT (*Regional Arrangement on the Radiocommunication Service for Inland Waterways*), an agreement regulating radio communication and radiocommunication services on inland waterways.

The HCM (*Harmonized Calculation Methods*) group brings together signatory countries in order to define procedures for the international coordination of frequencies in the 29.7 MHz - 43.5 GHz range for fixed and mobile services.

Over the course of the year, the Authority cooperated and communicated with foreign regulators on the investigation of complaints involving foreign entities, specifically concerning unsolicited communications and cross-border frequency interference.

Three employees from the regional offices of the Department of State Supervision of Electronic Communications were nominated to participate in the following working groups within the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC), who attended these groups online:

- Wireless Network Evolution (WNE)
- Planning and Future Trends (PFT)
- Open Internet (OI)

In addition, one representative of the Department of State Supervision of Electronic Communications was a member of the CEPT – FM22 (Frequency Management – Monitoring and Enforcement) working group.

A delegate from the Legislative and Legal Affairs Department participated in the Expert Group on the Regulatory Framework. Simultaneously, in the Project Requirements Definition, the topic of national regulatory authorities' independence was addressed. This arose during the creation of a study on the state of the NRA's independence, wherein the representative presented the Authority's state of independence.

Within the ERGP (European Regulators Group for Postal Services), the Authority was a member of the following working groups in 2022:

- WG Access and interoperability
- WG Consumers and market indicators
- WG Cross border parcel delivery
- WG Regulatory framework
- WG Sustainability
- WG Medium-term strategy 2023 – 2025

Other international memberships:

- Universal Postal Union (UPU)
- European Committee for Standardization (CEN)
- European Committee for Postal Regulation (CERP)
- EC Committee on the Postal Directive

In terms of international collaboration, the Postal Services Regulatory Department prioritised participation in the European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP). Their involvement included tasks and projects derived from the ERGP Medium-Term Strategy 2020-2022 and the Annual Work Programme, with the goal of advising the European Commission and fostering cooperation among independent national regulatory authorities in Member States.



In 2022, representatives of the Authority actively participated in six working groups within the European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP). The focus areas for the year encompassed a range of key issues, including the collection and analysis of market data, addressing the need for universal service in the light of new market dynamics and evolving consumer needs, facilitating access to the postal network amidst the burgeoning e-commerce sector, and analysing the enforcement of EU Regulation 2018/644 on cross-border parcel delivery. Additional priorities involved the enhancement of service quality, protection of postal users' rights, and promotion of environmental sustainability within the postal sector. In 2022, the Authority also attended two plenary meetings of the European Committee for Standardization CEN/TC 331 Postal Services.

As part of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the Authority contributed to tasks related to postal regulation, preparing opinions on extraterritorial office exchange policy issues, and UPU's inclusivity towards other entities operating in the postal sector.

Authority representatives also engaged in the EC Committee on the Postal Directive and contributed to the EC study "Main developments in the postal services (2017 – 2021)". The study assesses significant developments in the letter and parcel delivery markets in EU Member States during the reference period (2017 – 2021), considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other relevant external events on the postal sector. It also outlines significant developments in the regulatory framework in the Member States.

The Authority is a member of BEREC expert working groups on the following topics:

- market and economic analysis
- statistics and indicators
- international roaming
- benchmarking
- regulatory accounting
- end users
- cyber5G
- open internet

In addition to the aforementioned collaborations, the Authority also engages in international activities with the OECD and ITU.

In 2022, the Authority successfully reestablished friendly-level meetings with the Czech Telecommunications Authority after a prolonged hiatus. A meeting between representatives of both offices took place in Hustopeče on 22 and 23 August. Alongside the President of the Authority, the Vice-President, Heads of Departments and Heads of Units attended the meeting. The Czech Telecommunications Office was represented by Ms. Hana Továrková, accompanied by representatives of the CTU Council.

During the meeting, colleagues exchanged experiences and knowledge in various areas of electronic communications regulation, spectrum management, and the implementation of the new European Electronic Communications Code (EEC). The President of the Authority extended an invitation to his Czech counterparts for the next partnership meeting in Slovakia, scheduled for 15 and 16 June 2023, in Častá-Papiernička.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT BODIES

- [Cooperation with the Media Services Council](#)

The Authority collaborated with the Media Services Board (the Board) concerning the allocation of analogue terrestrial FM radio frequencies. In 2022, the Authority prepared and submitted the necessary documents to the Board for the re-tendering of frequencies.

Tender procedure	Repeatedly included frequencies
Spring 2022	6
Autumn 2022	19

The preparation of documents for the Council for the purposes of conducting tenders for the allocation of frequencies for analogue radio terrestrial broadcasting is a technically and time-consuming process every year. Detailed analyses of individual cases required an objective view in the Authority's effort to ensure efficient use of the frequency spectrum, since these frequencies are a business tool of communication network operators for analogue radio broadcasting.

On 1 August 2022, Act No 264/2022 Coll. on media services entered into force. This Act repealed two previous acts, namely Act No 308/2000 Coll. on broadcasting and retransmission, which outlined the allocation of frequencies for analogue terrestrial radio broadcasting, and Act No 220/2007 Coll. on digital broadcasting of programme services and provision of other content services via digital transmission, which provided details on the allocation of frequencies for digital terrestrial television and radio broadcasting.

- [Ensuring the continuity of analogue terrestrial radio broadcasting](#)

In 2022, the Authority collaborated with the Council to ensure the uninterrupted operation of FM radio broadcasting networks for the purpose of spreading the program services of commercial broadcasters with regional or multi-regional licence and program services of the public broadcaster.

- [Cooperation with the Transport Authority](#)

The Authority, in collaboration with the Transport Authority, processed 21 coordination requests pertaining to analogue terrestrial FM radio broadcasting within the 104 – 108 MHz frequency band.


- [Cooperation with the Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic](#)

In 2022, the Authority engaged in intensive cooperation and coordination efforts with the Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic due to the need to manage frequencies for both civilian users and the forces of the Slovak Republic. This interdepartmental collaboration aimed to address frequency coordination requests, particularly during the initial phase of the war in Ukraine. The Authority dedicated significant attention to handling these requests on a daily basis, ensuring operational effectiveness. While the number of frequency coordination requests decreased during the second half of the year, there was an overall increase in the level of frequency coordination between various frequencies compared to the previous period.

- [Preparation of the National Table of Frequency Allocations - NTFA](#)

The Authority collaborated with the Slovak Ministry of Transport to prepare the NTFA for the year 2023.

- [Inter-ministerial cooperation](#)



The Authority collaborates with inter-ministerial partners in the Inter-Ministerial Commission for Harmonisation of Spectrum Use. This collaboration aims to achieve harmonisation in the utilisation and protection of frequencies and frequency bands across all radiocommunication services. The goal is to align these services with the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), as adopted by the World Radiocommunication Conference. Additionally, alignment with EU directives, decisions, and recommendations, as well as decisions and recommendations of the European Electronic Communications Committee (ECC), is ensured. Throughout this process, the efficient use of the spectrum for both civil and military purposes is taken into consideration.