

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

24 June 2004

On cooperation between the National Council of the Slovak Republic and the Government of the Slovak Republic in matters concerning the European Union.

The National Council of the Slovak Republic has decided to adopt the constitutional law as follows:

Article 1

(1) The Government of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter "the Government") or an authorized member of the Government shall submit to the National Council of the Slovak Republic drafts of legally binding acts and other acts of the European Communities and the European Union to be discussed by representatives of the Governments of the member states of the European Union, and shall inform it on other issues concerning the Slovak Republic's membership in the European Communities and the European Union.

(2) The Government or an authorized member shall sufficiently in advance submit to the National Council of the Slovak Republic a draft of the position of the Slovak Republic on the drafts of acts as specified in paragraph 1, together with an assessment of their impact on the Slovak Republic.

Article 2

(1) The National Council of the Slovak Republic may approve the positions of the Slovak Republic concerning the drafts of legally binding acts and other acts of the European Communities and the European Union to be decided upon by representatives of the Governments of the member states of the European Union.

(2) The National Council of the Slovak Republic may authorize by law a committee to exercise the powers specified in paragraph 1.

(3) The National Council of the Slovak Republic may also approve the positions of the Slovak Republic concerning other issues of the European Union if requested by the Government

or by at least one fifth of the Members of National Council of the Slovak Republic.

(4) If the National Council of the Slovak Republic approves a draft of a position, it shall be binding for the member of the Government representing the Slovak Republic in the bodies of the European Communities and the European Union. If the National Council of the Slovak Republic fails to express its opinion on a draft of the position of the Slovak Republic within two weeks of its submission, or if the National Council of the Slovak Republic fails to approve a draft of the position of the Slovak Republic without adopting another position, an authorized member of the Government shall act on the draft position of the Slovak Republic.

(5) An authorized member of the Government may deviate from the position of the Slovak Republic or from the draft position as specified in paragraph 4 only when unavoidable and necessary and with due consideration for the interest of the Slovak Republic. In such case the member of the Government shall without delay inform the National Council of the Slovak Republic of his/her action and explain the reasons for taking this action. The member of the Government may thereafter ask the National Council of the Slovak Republic to alter the position of the Slovak Republic.

(6) Based on the report submitted by the Government, the National Council of the Slovak Republic shall at least once a year discuss all issues relating to the Slovak Republic's membership in the European Communities and the European Union and approve any recommendations for the Government to follow in the forthcoming period.

Article 3

The rules of cooperation between the National Council of the Slovak Republic and the Government in matters concerning the European Union shall be specified by law.

Article 4

This Constitutional Law is effective as of 1 August 2004.

Ivan Gašparovič v.r.

Pavol Hrušovský v.r.

Mikuláš Dzurinda v.r.