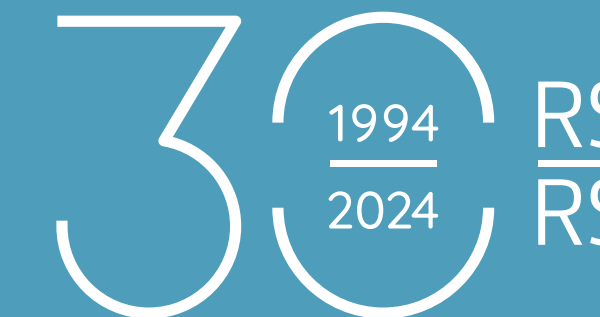




REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
COURT OF AUDIT



AUDIT REPORT

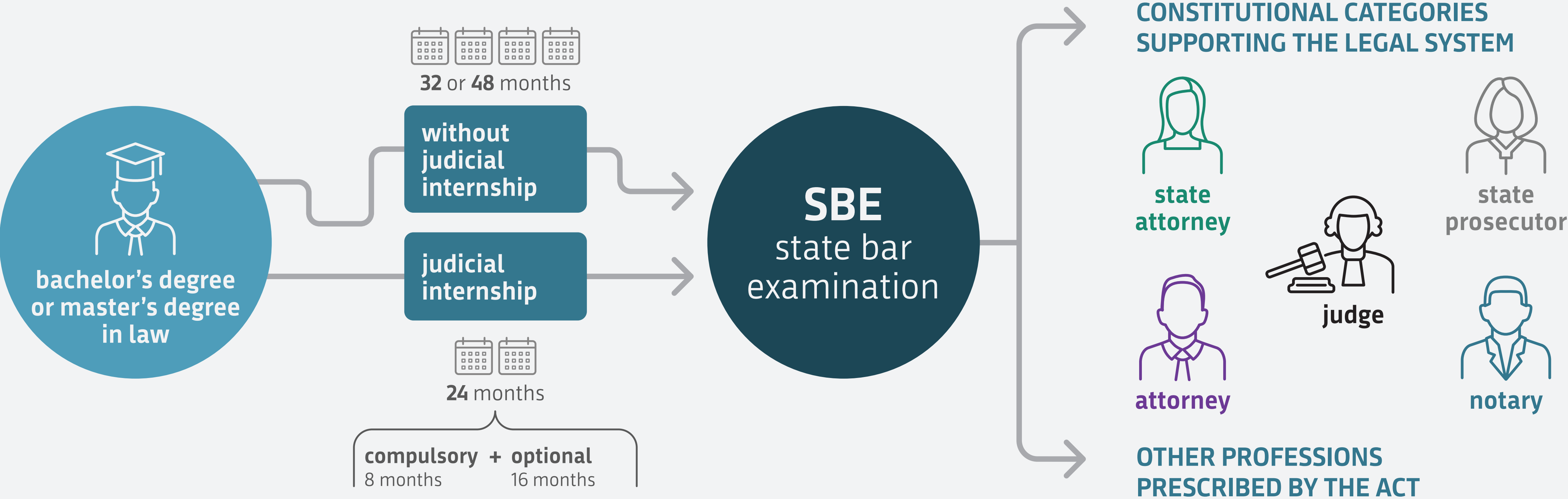
Regulation of the judicial internship system

Performance audit

Audit period: 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2022



Judicial internship is the fastest way to state bar examination



LEGAL BASIS



State Law Examination Act

- ! last amended in 2007
- ✓ changes planned until October 2026

AUDITEES



Ministry of Justice

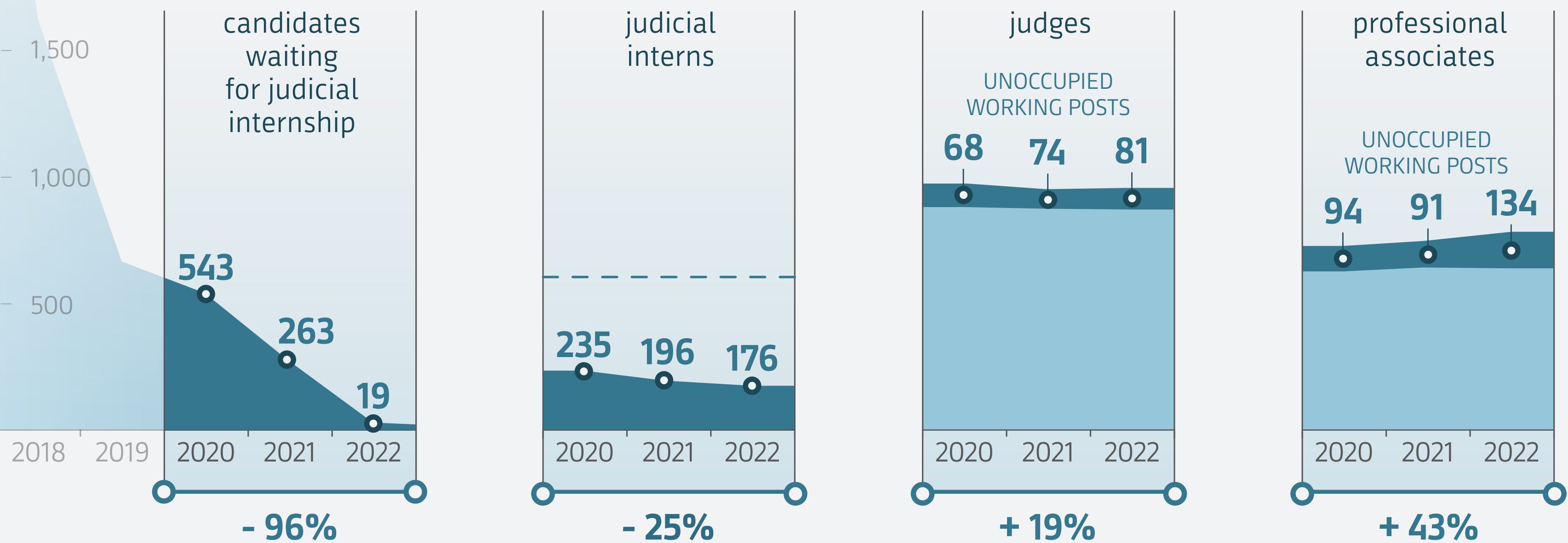


Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia



- Higher Court in Celje
- Higher Court in Koper
- Higher Court in Ljubljana
- Higher Court in Maribor

Growing needs for jurists who have passed the state bar exam, but we do not know how many are actually needed



interest in judicial internship needs to be stimulated!



due to long waiting lists candidates found employment elsewhere

no more waiting periods!

602 defined judicial intern posts

NOT KNOWN how many are really needed!?

the largest shortage at the district and local courts


after 10 years we shall need at least 176 new judges!

the largest shortage at the district and local courts

NOT KNOWN how many shall be needed in medium-term!?

Implementation of judicial internship is not fully satisfactory

ANSWERS TO THE SURVEY
by judicial interns



inappropriate workspaces and equipment



lack of information
on judicial internship



training **does not include all legal fields**
subject to SBE

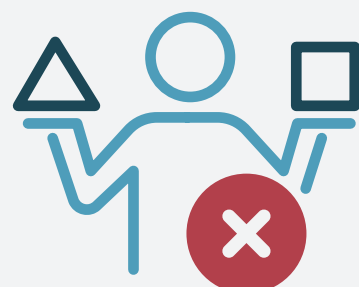


flexible working time
and independence
at work



29% lower payment
compared to the average

✓ **payments shall gradually increase by 41% until 2025**



unequal position due to lack of instructions for writing and
assessing mid-term exams

! **paying courses for the preparation to SBE**

ANSWERS TO THE SURVEY
by judges mentors



no thorough insight
into fulfilment
of the obligations
of judicial interns
and mentors' work



time for mentors not specified and inappropriately valued

✓ **mentors entitled to allowance of € 260 from 2025**



no unified instructions
for mentors' work,
everyone works
differently



89% of judges wish to be mentors to judicial interns

Judicial interns have obligations after they pass SBE, but there are no data how many remain in the national administration of justice



OPINION OF THE COURT OF AUDIT

● **Judicial internship system** was in the period from 2020 to 2022 arranged **partially efficient.**

✓ Ministry of Justice and Supreme Court **carried out the demanded measures already during the audit.**

The Court of Audit proposed several recommendations to all auditees, among them:

Ministry of Justice should:



define the number of judicial interns considering realistic needs for jurists who passed SBE and take into account the courts' capacities

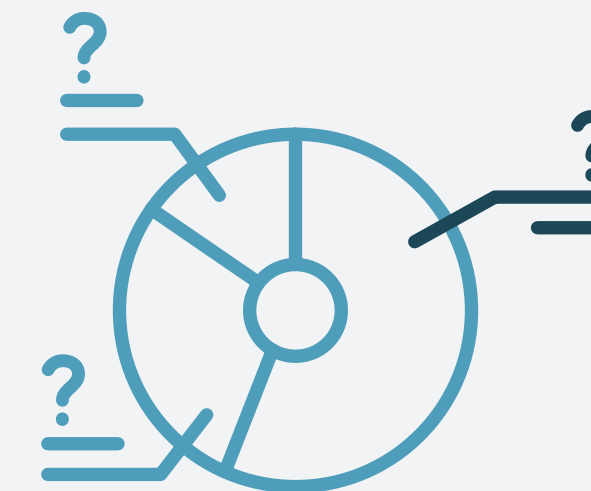


include all fields which are part of the examination for SBE **in the training programme**



set up a system of monitoring the number of judicial interns after they passed SBE and asses and remedy causes why former judicial interns have left the national administration of justice

Supreme Court should:



carry out projections of the required number of employees who passed SBE at all courts (mid-term)

Higher Courts should:



define instructions for mentorship to judicial interns or minimal standards