Foreign Correspondents and Correspondence Offices in Slovenia

By implementing the Mass Media Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 110/06 - officially consolidated text, 36/08 - ZPOmK-1, 77/10 - ZSFCJA, 90/10 - US decision, 87/11 - ZAvMS, 47/12, 47/15 - ZZSDT, 22/16, 39/16, 45/19 - US decision, 67/19 - US decision in 82/21; hereinafter referred to as: ZMed), the Ministry of Culture has taken over certain administrative functions concerning the accreditation of foreign correspondence offices and correspondents, which had until the implementation of these changes, in accordance with Act amending Government of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 23/96) been performed by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia.

A foreign press Agency or foreign mass medium is according to the ZMed is a legal entity having a head office in a foreign country, its basic activity being collecting, transmitting or distributing informative programmes.

Foreign correspondents within the meaning of this ZMed shall be journalists, photojournalists and radio, television and film recorders who, irrespective of their nationality, are full employees of a foreign publisher/broadcaster of a mass medium or a foreign press Agency, or who have concluded a contract with such a publisher/broadcaster or Agency and intend to perform their activities in the Republic of Slovenia for at least three (3) months.

Entry in the register

Conditions, under which foreign correspondence offices or foreign correspondents of foreign mass media can be entered into the register (accreditation), are provided for in the ZMed. The board of directors of a foreign mass medium or foreign press Agency shall lodge an application for entry in the register with the relevant Ministry (currently Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia, Ljubljana, Maistrova ulica 10).

* The following information must be cited in the application for entry of a foreign correspondence office in the register (fourth paragraph of Article 123 of the ZMed):
* the business name and the head office address of the foreign press Agency or publisher/broadcaster of the foreign mass medium founding the correspondence office;
* the name of the medium;
* data on the registration of the foreign press Agency or foreign mass medium in the home country;
* the registered office address of the correspondence office in the Republic of Slovenia;
* the full name of the head of the correspondence office.

Any person accredited in the Republic of Slovenia as a foreign correspondent may be the head of a correspondence office.

The following information must be cited in the application for entry of a foreign correspondent in the register (sixth paragraph of Article 123 of the Mass Media Act):

* full name of the correspondent;
* the correspondent's date, place and country of birth;
* the correspondent's nationality;
* the country, place and date of issue and number of the correspondent's passport, or the number of the correspondent's personal identity card if the correspondent is a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia;
* the place and address of the correspondent's permanent residence abroad, if the person is a foreign correspondent occasionally resident in the Republic of Slovenia

The application shall include (seventh paragraph of Article 123 of the Mass Media Act):

* proof that the foreign correspondent has a guaranteed place of residence in the Republic of Slovenia;
* a brief curriculum vitae of the foreign correspondent;
* two photographs of the foreign correspondent;
* proof that the correspondent is employed at a foreign press Agency or publisher/broadcaster of a foreign mass medium, or has concluded an appropriate contract on the performance of activities with a foreign press Agency or publisher/broadcaster of a foreign mass medium.

In exceptional cases a foreign correspondent who is not employed at a foreign press Agency or publisher/broadcaster of a foreign mass medium and who has not concluded an appropriate contract on the performance of activities may apply for entry in the register under the following three conditions(eight paragraph of Article 123 the Mass Media Act):

* if the correspondent lodges an application for entry in the register in accordance with the sixth paragraph of Article 123 the Mass Media Act, with the supplementary material specified in the first, second and third indents of the seventh paragraph of the Article 123 the Mass Media Act;
* if the correspondent encloses proof that he/she currently works with a foreign Agency or foreign mass medium;
* if the correspondent submits an international press card.

We further note that, in accordance with constitutional and legislative provisions, the application and all documents shall be submitted in the Slovenian language or in a verified translation.

PROOF OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE PAYMENT:

In accordance with the Administrative Fees Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 106/10 - official consolidated text, 14/15 - ZUUJFO, 84/15 - ZZelP-J, 32/16, 30/18 - ZKZaš and 189/20 - ZFRO; hereinafter referred to as: ZUT) the administrative fee in the total sum of EUR 22.60 must be paid at the application, excluding the exceptions which according to the provisions of Article 23 ZUT do not pay fees, and exceptions which according to provisions of Article 24 ZUT are exempt from fee payment.

Fee shall be paid into the paying-in account:

IBAN: SI56 0110 0100 0315 637

SWIFT: BSLJSI2X

(a reference to the number 11 33405-7111002-33400114).

Recipient: Banka Slovenije, administrative fees account of the Republic of Slovenia

Slovenska cesta 35

1000 Ljubljana

Slovenia

Purpose: administrative fee payment

Rulings on the accreditation of a foreign correspondence office and rulings on accreditation of a foreign correspondent in the Republic of Slovenia shall be issued by the relevant Ministry. The foreign correspondence office or correspondent shall obtain the right to perform public information activities in the Republic of Slovenia on the day the ruling becomes legally final. The ruling on accreditation of a foreign correspondent shall also be valid as a personal work permit, unless the foreign correspondent is a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia. The ruling on accreditation shall be issued to a foreign correspondence office or correspondent with a period of validity of one year, and may be renewed, if an application for renewal is lodged in accordance with the Public Media Act before the expiry of validity.

On the day the ruling becomes final, the relevant Ministry shall issue the applicant accreditation card, which shall be valid until the expiry of the ruling's validity.