

The history of civil registers in Slovakia and the Law on the name and surname in Slovakia.

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Slovensko

Vznik matrik

The civil registers originated as the most basic form of population registration for the needs of the spiritual administration of the faithful. They recorded and documented all the most essential facts of the existence of each person who belonged to the spiritual administration of a particular church. As the time passed, especially with the improvement of the forms of registration and the intervention of the state, they evolved into books of records of all the facts that were important for the knowledge of the personal status of the citizens not only in relation to the church but also to the state.

The registration book

Rok, měsíc a den narození; pak jméno kněze, který křtil	Haus-Nr.	Jméno křtěncovo Name des Täuflings	Rod Ge-schlecht				Rodičové — Eltern				Kmotrův — Pathen	
			mužský männlich	ženský weiblich	manželský ehelich	ne-manželský unehelich	Otec: jeho křtěná a rodinné jméno, stav a bydliště, pak jeho otec křtěná a rodinné jméno, stav a bydliště, a jeho matky jméno a příjmení Vater: Tauf- und Familienname, Stand und Wohnort, dann dessen Vaters Tauf- und Familienname, Stand und Wohnort, und der Mutter Tauf- und Familienname	Náboženství Religion katoľ. — katol. — protest. — protest.	Matka: její křtěná jméno, pak jejího otce křtěná a rodinné jméno, stav a bydliště, a její matky jméno a příjmení Mutter: Taufname, dann deren Vaters Tauf- und Familienname, Stand und Wohnort, und der Mutter Tauf- und Familienname	Náboženství Religion katoľ. — katol. — protest. — protest.	Jméno, stav a bydliště Name, Stand und Wohnort	
18. 7/9 října 9 Josef Kratochvíl farář	31.	Julie 3/3 1898. doba zkus. Josefa Síchlová z Konic 46. Cop. 3/4 1898 ~ Babčich	6	11	15	2	Antonín Kavliček, nívecník Říčanovic, manželský syn Drahůška Kavlička, Tombora ~ Říčanovic a Marie, rozená Svěřelová ~ nar. 25/1873	1.	Alojzía, manželská dusa Jana Cvilínka, čistlamička ~ Bukovínová Anny, rozená Pracharřovy - nar. 22/7 1873	1.	František Křepík řídící polub ~ Říčanovic Jilka, manželka	

History

The general extension of the keeping of civil registers has aroused the interest of the State in them. The first in a series of regulations in this area was Maria Theresa's decree of 29th December 1769 on the protection of church registers of the baptised: parish priests were obliged to take good care of them and were not allowed to give the original to anyone.

The absolutist rulers - Maria Theresa, but especially Joseph II - interfered heavily in the affairs of the church, which they tried to subordinate to the interests of the state. Of primary importance was Joseph II's patent of toleration, which guaranteed religious freedom to Protestants - Protestants and Calvinists - and official recognition of the Orthodox. The issuance of the toleration patent soon resulted in the establishment of a large number of new Protestant parishes, also called Josephine parishes, where separate registers were kept.

Joseph II understood the importance and significance of civil registers as a record of the population not only from the personal and ecclesiastical point of view, but mainly from the point of view of the needs of public administration for economic, military and, last but not least, statistical purposes.

Joseph II.

By a patent of 1 May 1781, Joseph II declared Roman Catholic registers to be legally valid public registers, and by another patent of 20 February 1784, he determined that each type of registers (births, marriages, deaths) should be kept in a separate book and according to the prescribed headings. A court decree of 19th July of the same year already made it obligatory to prescribe a united procedure and method of keeping them.



Name and surname - introduction

Contemporary Slovak personal names consist of two parts, a given name or simply a first name and a surname, e.g. Ján Nový, Ivana Sokolová. Thus, in Slovak we have a two-name systém of personal names, which is characteristic for the nations of Europe. True, there are exceptions. For example, the Russian personal name consists of three parts, the birth name, the patronymic and the surname, e.g. Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, Alexander Sergeyevich Pushkin. Another three-name system of personal names is used in Bulgarian.

SLOVENSKÁ REPUBLIKA
RODNÝ LIST C.

V knihe narodení matričného úradu

zväzok	ročník	strana	por.č.	je zapísané

Deň, mesiac, rok narodenia a rodné číslo

Miesto narodenia

Meno a priezvisko

Pohlavie

Meno a priezvisko, rodné priezvisko, deň, mesiac, rok narodenia a miesto narodenia, štátne občianstvo, rodné číslo

Meno a priezvisko, rodné priezvisko, deň, mesiac, rok narodenia a miesto narodenia, štátne občianstvo, rodné číslo

Poznámky

V meno a priezvisko matkára

dňa

podpis

1. Máj 18. 27. 004 1/2011 0000000

In Slovakia, we have the Act on the Name and Surname No. 300/1993 Coll.

Each of our citizens receives his or her birth name immediately after birth when registered in the birth register. The law says everyone must have a name. The name of the child is determined by agreement of the parents, if there is no such agreement, the name is determined by a court decision. If one of the parents is unknown or deceased, the name is determined by the declaration of one of the parents. If neither of the parents is known, the name of the child shall be determined by the court at the instance of the municipality or the municipal district which keeps the register office in whose register office the birth of the child is registered.

In Slovakia, more than one name may be designated, including foreign names, but not more than three names. It shall not be possible to designate a derogatory, impersonal or household form of a name, or the first name identical to the name of a living sibling listed in the register in the first place, or to designate a male person by a female name and vice versa. E.g.: male child: Ivana (female name), Peter, Jan Mokrý - cannot be, only Ivan, Peter,

Name and surname

A person whose second and third names have not been determined, may be chosen by reaching the age of 18 by notifying the civil registry office in whose registry his/her birth is registered. A person who has more than one designated name may, upon reaching the age of 18, apply to the civil registry office in whose registry office his birth is registered for a change in the order of names. The order of names may be changed in this way only once. For example: Susan, Mia, Anna, the order may be changed to Anna, Mia, Susan, and so on. Changing the order of names is not a name change.

a) Mužské krstné (rodné) mená

Obdobie	Najfrekventovanejšie rodné mená podľa poradí
1900 – 1929	1 Jozef, 2 Ján, 3 Anton, 4 Štefan
1930 – 1939	1 Štefan, 2 Jozef, Anton, 3 Ján, 4 Ladislav, František, Emil, Alojz
1940 – 1949	1 Jozef, 2 Ján, 3 Stanislav, 4 Anton
1950 – 1959	1 Jozef, Milan, 2 Ján, 3 Vladimír, 4 Štefan, Stanislav, Marián, Anton
1960 – 1969	1 Jozef, 2 Ivan, 3 Ján, 4 Ľubomír, Miroslav
1970 – 1979	1 Peter, 2 Jozef, 3 Milan, Martin, 4 Miroslav, Juraj
1980 – 1994	1 Peter, Tomáš, Michal, 2 Martin, 3 Ján, 4 Roman, Jozef, Milan
1900 – 1994	1 Jozef, 2 Ján, 3 Anton, 4 Peter, 5 Milan, 6 Štefan, 7 Michal, 8 Vladimír, Miroslav

b) Ženské krstné (rodné) mená

Obdobie	Najfrekventovanejšie rodné mená podľa poradí
1900 – 1929	1 Mária, 2 Anna, 3 Pav(v)ilína, 4 Helena
1930 – 1939	1 Mária, 2 Anna, 3 Emília, 4 Helena
1940 – 1949	1 Mária, 2 Emília, 3 Anna, 4 Oľga
1950 – 1959	1 Mária, 2 Anna, Emília, 3 Daniela, 4 Marta, Oľga
1960 – 1969	1 Mária, Viera, 2 Jana, 3. Eva, 4 Iveta
1970 – 1979	1 Jana, 2 Gabriela, 3 Andrea, Adriana, Monika, 4 Eva
1980 – 1994	1 Veronika, 2 Petra, 3 Katarína, Zuzana, 4 Gabriela, Ivana
1900 – 1994	1 Mária, 2 Anna, 3 Emília, 4 Jana, 5 Helena, 6 Daniela, Eva, Margarita, 7 Gabriela, 8 Ľudmila, Oľga

Name and surname

A citizen of the Slovak Republic shall use his/her name in official relations in the form and sequence indicated in the register of births. As regards the change of name, the change of name may be authorised under Section 6 by the district office or under Section 7 by the registry office in the place where the citizen is registered in the birth register. A change of name may be authorised, in particular if the name is defamatory or if there are reasons of special consideration.

A change of name shall always be permitted if the citizen of the Slovak Republic whose name is in question is also a citizen of another state and the change is intended to achieve a name in a form which is in accordance with the law or tradition of that other state.

A name change permit is not required if it is a change:

- of a foreign language name to its Slovak equivalent and vice versa. You can change your name only once.
- the name of the child after the adoption
- names due to gender reassignment

Such a change of name, which does not require a permit, shall be carried out in the registry office on the basis of a written declaration by the person whose name is being changed or by his or her legal representative. In the case of a change of name due to a change of sex, a medical certificate must also be submitted.

To change the name of a minor over 15 years of age, his or her written consent with his or her officially certified signature is required

Surname

Everyone must have a surname.

After birth, a citizen of the Slovak Republic acquires the common surname of the parents or, if they have different surnames, acquires the surname of one of them determined by agreement at the time of marriage or, if the parents are not married and have different surnames, acquires the surname according to the agreement of the parents. Only the surname which one of the parents has at the time of the agreement may be determined.

	Priezvisko
1.	Horváth/Horváthová
2.	Kováč/Kováčová
3.	Varga/Vargová
4.	Tóth/Tóthová
5.	Nagy/Nagyová
6.	Baláž/Balážová
7.	Szabó/Szabová
8.	Molnár/Molnárová
9.	Balog/Balogová
10.	Lukáč/Lukáčová

Example

Example 1: child born from marriage

Father: Jozef Holý, wife Jana Holá – child's surname is : male form Holý, female form Holá.

Example 2: child is not born from marriage

Father: Peter Rusnak, mother Zuzana Hrubá – the surname of the child by agreement of the parents can be: male form Rusnak, or Hrubý, female form Rusnaková, or Hrubá. The child cannot by law have both surnames of the parents.

If the child is also a citizen of another state, the surname or surnames in accordance with its law or tradition may be entered in the birth register when the birth is registered. When registering the surname, the parent of the child shall prove these facts by a public document signed by the other state of which the child is an inhabitant.

A child born within 300 days of the final judgment of divorce takes the surname agreed upon by the divorced spouses at the time of marriage, unless paternity has been legally denied by the former spouse of the child's mother.

A child under 15 takes the surname of the mother if the denial of paternity of the man entered in the birth register and has been legally decided.

If the child's father is unknown, the child takes the surname of the mother that the mother had at the time of the child's birth.

If neither of the child's parents is known, the surname of the child shall be determined by the court at the initiative of the registry office registry the birth record of the child is made.

The same shall apply if the mother has left the child in a medical institution after giving birth.

Name and surname change affiliation

The district office competent to authorise a change of name or surname is according to the permanent or last permanent residence of the citizen of the Slovak Republic in the territory of the Slovak Republic. If the citizen of the Slovak Republic did not have such residence, the Bratislava District Office is competent to authorise the change of name or surname. This authorisation shall apply if the citizen changes his/her name or surname to a completely different form of name or surname.

Example (cross-reference): Anna Kucharová, to Anna Nová

Example (first name): Anna Kucharová, on Zuzana Kucharová

The registration of a change of name or a change of surname shall be carried out by the registry office in whose registry the name or surname of the citizen of the Slovak Republic to whom the change of name or surname relates is registered. These changes shall be made in cases where the names or surnames of citizens are corrupted, foreign, etc.

Example (surname): Anna Kuharova to Anna Kucharová - in this case if an error was made in the birth registration.

Example (first name): Sofia - foreign to Žofia - Slovak equivalent

Name and surname change affiliation

An application for a change of name or surname must be in writing and must contain certain particulars, such as the applicant's personal details, the name or surname chosen by the person to whom the application relates, details of nationality and the grounds for the application.

If the person to whom the application relates can apply electronically for a change of name or surname, he or she can do so through our portal <https://www.slovensko.sk>, but must also have a guaranteed electronic signature. In this case, the fee for the change of name or surname is 50% cheaper than if you contact the office in writing or in person. An application to change the name or surname of a child shall be made by the child's parents, if they are the child's legal guardians, as a joint application. In the case of a child over 15 years of age, the application shall be accompanied by the child's written consent with his or her officially certified signature.

If the application is made by a person other than the person to whom the application relates, the application shall also include the name, surname and place of residence of the applicant and his relationship to the person to whom the application relates; the attorney must produce a written power of attorney, signed by the person to whom the application relates, to act for a change of name or surname.

Notification obligation

The registry office shall notify the change of name or change of surname, which does not require a permit and which is carried out in the registry office on the basis of a written declaration of the person, to the state authorities and municipalities under special regulations.

The district office shall notify the state authorities and municipalities of name or surname change for which a permit is required to the extent specified in special regulations.

And finally a few rarities about names from the world.

As elsewhere in the world, there are parents in Switzerland who want an extra name for their newborn. So a young couple from Chur, who had their first baby girl in the middle of a rainy July day, decided to name their baby girl "Summästrahl" (Sunshine). However, the registrar firmly refused the parents' request.

The world

The chief registrar of the city of Zurich was much more generous. When the couple told him that they had chosen the name Roy-Pwichdjplum for their first-born son, the registrar at first looked at the happy parents in amazement, wrote down the strange name, but did not forgive himself to note, that he is very curious what will the kid tell them, when he grows older... .

The head of the registry office in Rio de Janeiro forbade his workers to register names in the birth registry that might be considered mocking, not serious or ambiguous. This prohibition was issued in connection with the fact that a certain Brazilian publisher had given his fourth child the name Dot. His previous children's names were Dash and Comma.

Registry offices in Ecuador refuse to register unusual names. Families there competed to give their babies the most unusual name. Names of states, cities, even names of washing powders and soaps were popular. The registrars' patience ran out when a married couple wished to name their baby Post Scriptum.

In the former states of Yugoslavia were recorded names such as Antilope, Pheasant, or even Banana, Chocolate or Dracula. On the other hand, in Slovakia the parents chose names such as Kozmos, Tiger and Winnetou.

Conclusion

My dear colleagues, thank you for your attention and I hope that you have learnt something new about the legislative of names and surnames in Slovakia.

Have a nice day and enjoy the rest of the congress.

<https://www.slovensko.sk/sk/titulna-stranka>