

# **THE LAW ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

## **I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1**

This law shall stipulate the status, jurisdiction, organisation and mode of operation and decision making of the National Assembly; the status, rights and duties of MPs; the emblems, symbols and insignias of the National Assembly; the relations between the National Assembly and other state bodies; international cooperation; management of assets used by the National Assembly; the financing of the National Assembly; the status of the Service of the National Assembly (hereinafter the Service), and other matters of importance for the operation of the National Assembly.

Any matters pertaining to the organisation and mode of operation of the National Assembly, procedure for enactment of acts of the National Assembly and other procedures, as well as other matters not stipulated by this law, shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly (hereinafter the Rules of Procedure) and other acts of the National Assembly.

### **Article 2**

The National Assembly shall be the supreme representative body and the holder of constitutional and legislative power in the Republic of Serbia.

### **Article 3**

The Speaker of the National Assembly shall represent the National Assembly.

### **Article 4**

The seat of the National Assembly shall be in Belgrade.

### **Article 5**

The National Assembly shall have its own seal.

### **Article 6**

The work of the National Assembly shall be public.

### **Article 7**

Within its competences, the National Assembly shall perform the following functions:

- representative;
- legislative;
- electoral; and
- oversight.

### **Article 8**

The National Assembly shall adopt: laws, the budget, final financial statement, development plan, spatial plan, the Rules of Procedure, strategy, declaration, resolution, recommendation, decision, conclusion and authentic interpretation of the law.

The competent committee of the National Assembly shall pass an act regulating unique methodological rules for drafting regulations to be applied by the authorised bodies when drafting Bills or other acts to be passed by the National Assembly.

Acts prescribed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be published in the *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*.

The act of the working body of the National Assembly shall be published in the *Official Gazette of Republic of Serbia* in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.

### **Article 9**

In the work of the National Assembly Serbian language and the Cyrillic script shall be in official use, whereas the Latin script shall be used in accordance with the law.

At a session of the National Assembly, a Member of Parliament shall have the right to speak and submit written documents in the work of the National Assembly, stipulated by the Rules of Procedure, in his/her own language.

When MP is using his/her language in the work of the National Assembly in terms of paragraph 2 of this Article, the Secretary General of the National Assembly shall, at all times or on a specific occasion, be obliged to provide for simultaneous interpretation of his/her verbal address or documents he/she submitted in the Serbian language.

### **Article 10**

The National Assembly shall have emblems, insignias and other symbols and accoutrements.

## **II. PUBLICUTY OF WORK**

### **Article 11**

The publicity of work of the National Assembly shall be ensured by: creating conditions for a television and internet broadcast of the sittings of the National Assembly, press conferences, issuance of official statements, enabling the following of the work of the National Assembly by the representatives of the mass media, observers from domestic and international associations and organisations and interested citizens, access to stenographic transcripts and minutes of the National Assembly sittings, a website of the National Assembly and other means in accordance with the Law and the Rules of Procedure.

Without prejudice to the provision of paragraph 1 of this Article, the publicity of work may be excluded by the decision of the National Assembly in accordance with the Law and the Rules of Procedure.

The public shall be informed about the draft agenda, date, time and place of the sitting of the National Assembly, except when otherwise stipulated by law.

The sittings of the working bodies of the National Assembly shall be public, unless otherwise decided by the working body in question.

Information relating to the sittings of the National Assembly or working bodies held in camera shall not be communicated without the special approval of the National Assembly, or the working body.

Special seats in the National Assembly shall be provided for observers of national and international associations and organisations, interested citizens and representatives of the mass media.

Journalists accredited to cover the work of the National Assembly shall be allowed to attend the sittings of the National Assembly and its working bodies and have access to draft laws and other acts debated by the National Assembly, stenographic transcripts of the sittings, documents and archive of the National Assembly.

The way the publicity of work is ensured and the procedure for excluding the public shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

Presence and attendance of persons as specified in paragraph 6 of this Article at the National Assembly shall be regulated by the competent working body of the National Assembly.

### **III. THE APPEARANCE AND USE OF EMBLEMS, INSIGNIAS AND OTHER SYMBOLS AND ACCOUTREMENTS**

#### **Article 12**

The National Assembly shall decide on the appearance and the use of emblems in accordance with the proposal of the competent working body of the National Assembly.

The National Assembly shall decide on the appearance and the use of insignias and other symbols and accoutrements in accordance with the proposal of the competent working body of the National Assembly.

In drafting the proposal referred to in par. 1 and 2 of this Article, the competent working body shall cooperate with renowned experts and artists.

Any display and carrying of the emblems, insignias and other symbols and accoutrements of the National Assembly damaging the reputation of the National Assembly shall be prohibited.

#### **Article 13**

The anthem of the Republic of Serbia shall be performed at the beginning of the first session of the National Assembly, at the beginning and closing of regular sessions of the National Assembly, during the taking of an oath of office by the President of the Republic and during the taking of an oath by the Government.

The anthem of the Republic of Serbia shall be performed in the National Assembly on other occasions that are to be decided on by the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The use of the anthem of the Republic of Serbia at the National Assembly shall be governed by the law regulating the use of the anthem of the Republic of Serbia.

#### **Article 14**

At the beginning of the first sitting of the National Assembly, at the beginning and closing of regular sessions of the National Assembly, during the taking of an oath of office by the President of the Republic and during the taking of an oath by the Government, the honour guard of the Serbian Army shall be lined in front of the main entrance to the House of the National Assembly.

The honour guard of the Serbian Army and the army orchestra may also participate in other activities of the National Assembly under the proposal of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The honour guard of the Serbian Army and the army orchestra in cases referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall act in accordance with the rules of the Serbian Armed Forces.

#### **IV. JURISDICTION**

##### **Article 15**

As the holder of constitutional and legislative power, the National Assembly shall:

- 1) adopt and amend the Constitution;
- 2) decide on changes concerning the borders of the Republic of Serbia;
- 3) call national referendum;
- 4) ratify international treaties when the obligation of their ratification is stipulated by the law;
- 5) decide on war and peace and declare states of war and emergency;
- 6) supervise the work of security services;
- 7) enact laws and other general acts within the competence of the Republic of Serbia
- 8) give previous approval for the Statute of the Autonomous Province;
- 9) adopt defence strategy;
- 10) adopt development plan and spatial plan;
- 11) adopt the budget and financial statement of the Republic of Serbia, under the proposal of the Government;
- 12) grant amnesty for criminal offences.

In performing its electoral function, the National Assembly shall:

- 1) elect the Government;
- 2) elect the judges of the Constitutional Court and decide on their dismissal and end of their term of office;
- 3) elect the President of the Supreme Court of Cassation, presidents of courts, the State Public Prosecutor and public prosecutors and decide on the termination of their term of office;
- 4) elect judges and deputy public prosecutors, in accordance with the Constitution and the law;
- 5) elect and dismiss the Governor of the National Bank of Serbia and Governors' Council;
- 6) elect and dismiss the Ombudsman;
- 7) elect and dismiss other officials as stipulated by the law.

In performing its control function, the National Assembly shall oversee the work of:

- 1) the Government and decide on the termination of the term of office of the Government and ministers;
- 2) the security services;
- 3) the Governor of the National Bank of Serbia;
- 4) the Protector of Citizens/Ombudsman;
- 5) other institutions and bodies in accordance with the law.

In performing its representative function, the National Assembly, i.e. the Members of Parliament shall:

- 1) consider citizens' petitions and proposals;
- 2) hold meetings with citizens at the National Assembly and offices of the National Assembly outside the seat of the National Assembly.

## **V. CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 16**

At the first sitting of the National Assembly the mandates of the MPs shall be verified, in accordance with a procedure stipulated by the Rules of Procedure.

At the first sitting of the National Assembly, the election of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, and the appointment of the Secretary General of the National Assembly shall take place.

The National Assembly shall be constituted by the verification of mandates of the two thirds of the Members of Parliament.

### **Article 17**

Upon reaching a decision on verification of the mandates, MPs shall take the oath of office, the text of which shall be as follows:

"I do solemnly swear that I will perform the duty of Member of Parliament with devotion, honourably, truly and faithfully to the Constitution, defend human and minority rights and freedoms of citizens, and to the best of my knowledge and ability, serve the citizens of Serbia, the truth and justice!"

### **Article 18**

The National Assembly shall elect members of the working bodies of the National Assembly and permanent parliamentary delegations to the international institutions.

## **VI. ORGANISATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **1. The Speaker of the National Assembly**

#### **Article 19**

The Speaker of the National Assembly shall:

- 1) represent the National Assembly;
- 2) convoke its sessions and determine proposal of agenda;
- 3) chair the National Assembly sessions;

- 4) convene meetings of the National Assembly Collegium and chair the meetings;
- 5) see to the work at the sittings of the National Assembly and application of the Rules of Procedure;
- 6) see to the timely and coordinated work of the working bodies of the National Assembly;
- 7) carry out other duties stipulated by the law and the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 20**

The Speaker of the National Assembly shall be elected from the rank of Members of Parliament upon the proposal of at least 30 MPs.

The Speaker of the National Assembly shall be elected by secret or by open ballot.

The National Assembly shall decide on the way the Speaker of the National Assembly is to be elected.

The voting procedure for the election of the Speaker of the National Assembly shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 21**

The term of office of the Speaker of the National Assembly shall terminate by means of resignation, dismissal or termination of the term of office as an MP.

In terms of paragraph 1 of this Article, the function of the Speaker of the National Assembly shall be performed by the eldest Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

#### **Article 22**

The Speaker of the National Assembly shall tender his/her resignation to the National Assembly in writing or orally at a sitting of the National Assembly.

The term of office of the Speaker of the National Assembly shall terminate on the day and hour of his/her resignation.

#### **Article 23**

The National Assembly may terminate the term of office of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

Procedure for terminating the term of office of the Speaker of the National Assembly shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

### **2. The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

#### **Article 24**

The National Assembly shall determine the number of Deputy Speakers of the National Assembly by a special decision.

The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly shall assist the Speaker of the National Assembly in performing duties within his/her competence.

In case of temporary inability to work, or absence, the Speaker of the National Assembly shall be substituted by one of the Deputy Speakers of the National Assembly in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 25**

The election and termination of term of office of the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly shall be regulated by the provisions of this law stipulating the election and termination of term of office of the Speaker of the National Assembly

### **3. THE COLLEGIUM OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

#### **Article 26**

The Collegium of the National Assembly (hereinafter the Collegium) is a body of the National Assembly the Speaker of the National Assembly convenes to coordinate the work and perform consultations regarding the work of the National Assembly.

The Collegium shall be composed of the Speaker of the National Assembly, Deputy Speakers of the National Assembly and heads of parliamentary groups in the National Assembly.

Members of Parliament that are not members of the Collegium may attend the Collegium meetings at the invitation of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The Collegium shall assist the Speaker of the National Assembly in representing the National Assembly, convening the sittings of the National Assembly, determining proposals of the agenda, coordinating the operation of the working bodies and other matters falling within the purview of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

### **4. The Working Bodies of the National Assembly**

#### **Article 27**

The National Assembly shall establish standing working bodies, as it may establish *ad hoc* working bodies.

Standing working bodies shall be committees.

*Ad hoc* working bodies shall be inquiry committees and commissions.

The committees shall be established for: consideration of bills and other acts submitted to the National Assembly; carrying out the review of policies pursued by the Government; supervision of the Government's and other state authorities' execution of laws and other general acts, and consideration of other matters falling within the competence of the National Assembly.

A committee shall, within its competences, supervise the work of the Government and other bodies and institutions whose work shall be overseen by the National Assembly in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

A committee shall consider the reports of the bodies, organisations and institutions which shall be submitted to the National Assembly in accordance with the law.

A committee may organise a public hearing.

For the purpose of considering specific matters falling within its competences and preparing proposals on these matters, a committee may establish a subcommittee and a committee Chairperson may establish a special working group.

The subcommittee and the working group in terms of paragraph 8 of this Article shall perform tasks for the needs of the committee and shall not act independently, unless decided otherwise by the competent committee.

A Member of the Government, i.e. an authorised Government representative, shall attend the committee sitting when proposals or opinions of the Government are considered and in other cases on the invitation of the Committee, as well as an authorised representative of other proposer of the law and acts.

The composition, competence and the mode of work shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

A *ad hoc* working body may be established for analysing situation in a particular area and determining the facts of certain occurrences and events.

The composition and the assignment of a *ad hoc* working body shall be regulated by a decision of the National Assembly.

Upon invitation, experts, scholars and professionals may participate in the work of working groups.

The Speaker of the National Assembly may, upon proposal of a working body, entrust scientific or professional institutions, as well as scientists and professionals with a task of considering certain issues falling within the competence of the National Assembly.

#### **Article 28**

The National Assembly shall elect members of the Committee and deputy members of the Committee upon the proposals of parliamentary groups, proportional to the number of MPs of each parliamentary group in relation to the total number of MPs at the National Assembly.

#### **Article 29**

A committee shall have a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson.

A committee Chairperson shall manage the work of the committee.

A committee shall have a Secretary.

### **5. Parliamentary Groups**

#### **Article 30**

Parliamentary groups shall be established at the National Assembly from the ranks of MPs.

#### **Article 31**

A parliamentary group shall have a Head and a Deputy Head.

The Head of a parliamentary group shall represent the parliamentary group.

### **6. Appointed Persons at the National Assembly**

#### **Article 32**

The appointed persons at the National Assembly shall be the Secretary General of the National Assembly and the Deputy Secretary General of the National Assembly.

### **Article 33**

The Secretary General of the National Assembly (hereinafter the Secretary General) shall be appointed by the National Assembly upon a proposal of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The Secretary General shall assist the Speaker and the Deputy Speakers of the National Assembly in preparing the sittings of the National Assembly, see to the implementation of decisions and conclusions of the National Assembly, manage the Service and perform other duties stipulated by the law and the Rules of Procedure.

The Secretary General shall be accountable for his/her work to the National Assembly and the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The term of office of the Secretary General shall be terminated on the day of the appointment of a Secretary General of a new legislature of the National Assembly, by resignation or dismissal.

### **Article 34**

The Secretary General shall have a deputy who shall assist him/her in the work and substitute him/her in case of absence or inability to work.

The Deputy Secretary General shall be appointed by the National Assembly upon proposal of the Secretary General with the approval of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The number of Deputies of the Secretary General shall be stipulated by the Rules of Procedure.

A Deputy Secretary General shall be accountable for his/her work to the National Assembly, the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Secretary General.

The term of office the Deputy Secretary General shall be terminated on the day of the appointment of a Deputy Secretary General of the new National Assembly, by resignation or dismissal.

### **Article 35**

The term of office of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General shall be terminated on the date and hour he/she tenders the resignation.

The Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General shall be dismissed in accordance with the procedure prescribed for their appointment.

Until new Secretary General is appointed, the duties of the Secretary General shall be carried out by the Deputy Secretary General.

## **VII. THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

### **Article 36**

A Member of Parliament shall obtain the rights and duties stipulated by the Constitution and the law on the day of verification of his/her mandate.

A Member of Parliament shall be issued with an identification card.

The identification card in terms of paragraph 2 of this Article shall be a public document an MP shall use to prove his/her status and on the basis of which he/she shall exercise the rights stipulated by the Constitution, the law and the Rules of Procedure.

The form and the contents of the MP identification card shall be regulated by the act of the competent committee of the National Assembly.

#### **Article 37**

A Member of Parliament shall decide, act and vote in accordance with his/her personal convictions.

#### **Article 38**

A Member of Parliament shall enjoy immunity in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

A Member of Parliament may not be held criminally or in any other way liable in respect of opinions expressed orally or in writing or votes cast by them in the performance of his/her duties.

A Member of Parliament invoking his/her immunity may not be detained, nor may he/she be subject to any criminal or other proceedings in which prison sentence may be pronounced, without prior approval of the National Assembly.

By means of majority vote of all MPs, the National Assembly shall decide on waiving the immunity of an MP invoking it, whereby the approval of the National Assembly referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be granted.

Member of Parliament who has not invoked his/her immunity, without previous approval of the National Assembly, may be charged in criminal or other proceedings in which prison sentence may be pronounced.

The body conducting proceedings against an MP who has not invoked the immunity shall inform the National Assembly on instituting the proceedings.

By means of majority votes of all MPs, the National Assembly may establish immunity to an MP who waived it.

An MP found in the act of committing a criminal offence for which the prison sentence longer than five years is stipulated, may be detained without prior approval of the National Assembly.

There shall be no statutes of limitations stipulated for the criminal or other proceedings in which the immunity is invoked.

Decision in terms of paragraphs 4 and 7 of this Article, shall be passed by the National Assembly, upon proposal of the competent committee of the National Assembly in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 39**

Member of Parliament shall not, concurrently, perform another public function or professional duty incompatible with the MP's function in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

The function incompatible with the MP's function shall be terminated on the day of verification of his/her MP's mandate.

#### **Article 40**

In accordance with the law and the Rules of Procedure, an MP shall have the right to:

- 1) propose laws and other acts;
- 2) propose authentic interpretation of the law;

- 3) file amendments to proposals of laws and other acts;
- 4) participate in debates and decide on proposals of laws and other acts at sittings of the National Assembly and its working bodies;
- 5) participate in submitting proposals for calling referendums on matters regulated by the law;
- 6) submit proposals for the establishment of commission or inquiry committee;
- 7) submit proposals for organising public hearing on matters of public interest;
- 8) propose changes and amendments to agenda;
- 9) pose MP's questions;
- 10) participate in submitting interpellation and motion of no confidence in the Government or particular member of the Government;
- 11) hold press conferences on the premises of the National Assembly;
- 12) undertake other actions in executing the MP's function.

Member of Parliament who is not a committee member may take part in the deliberations of the committee without a right to decide, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 41**

Member of Parliament shall have the right to be fully and timely informed about all issues within the competences of the National Assembly, as well as the right to seek information required for performing the function of an MP from the Speaker of the National Assembly, the Chairperson of the Committee and other working bodies of the National Assembly, the Prime Minister, the members of the Government and officials of other state bodies and organisations.

The exercise of rights in terms of paragraph 1 of this Article shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 42**

A Member of Parliament shall have the right to salary, allowance and other remunerations in accordance with the law and other acts.

#### **Article 43**

Member of Parliament receiving salary for the work at the National Assembly shall have the right to receive a pay up to six months after the termination of the term of office as an MP which shall be of the same amount as the salary he/she had on the day of the termination of the term of office. This right may be extended until the right to pension is earned, but for no longer than six months.

Member of Parliament whose term of office was terminated during pregnancy and childbirth shall be entitled to receive a pay up to one year after the termination of the MP term of office, which shall be of the same amount of the salary specified in paragraph 1 of this Article.

The right in terms of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be granted to an MP whose term of office expired prior to the expiry of the period of time for which he/she has been elected if he/she is convicted by a final court judgement to unconditional imprisonment of minimum six months.

The right in terms of paragraph 1 of this Article shall expire upon obtaining employment, earning the right to pension, as well as in case of election, i.e. appointment to another function for which a salary is foreseen.

#### **Article 44**

The mandate of an MP shall terminate by verification of mandates of the two thirds of MPs of the new legislature of the National Assembly, as in cases stipulated by law regulating the election of MPs.

The reasons for termination of an MP's term of office prior to the expiry of the term of office he/she has been elected for shall be notified to the Speaker of the National Assembly.

In case of paragraph 2 of this Article, the date of the termination of an MP's term of office shall be discussed at the first following sitting after receiving a report of the competent committee of the National Assembly about the reasons for termination of MP's term of office.

#### **Article 45**

Member of Parliament shall be obliged to respect the Constitution, law and the Rules of Procedure.

Member of Parliament shall be obliged to:

- participate in the work of the National Assembly and its committees;
- act in accordance with the decisions of the competent committee of the National Assembly regulating the rights and duties of MPs;
- keep the confidentiality of the data representing state, military or official secret even after the termination of his/her MP's function at the National Assembly;
- preserve the reputation, respect the dignity and decorum at the National Assembly sessions, committee and parliamentary group meetings with his/her overall
- address other deputies with respect, with no offensive expressions and assertion of facts and judgements concerning the private lives of other persons;
- responsibly and rationally manage the budgetary resources of the Republic of Serbia which shall be allocated for the work of the National Assembly;
- submit a report to the competent state institution about his/her personal assets and incomes in accordance with the law; and
- perform other duties in accordance with the law and the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 46**

Member of Parliament whose term of office has been terminated shall have the right to, within two months since the termination of his/her term of office, return to work with the employer where his/her employment had been suspended due to his/her election as an MP.

Member of Parliament whose term of office has been terminated shall have access to the archive and documents about the work of the National Assembly which he/she had access to as an MP.

Member of Parliament whose term of office has been terminated shall have the right to attend state ceremonial events at the National Assembly in accordance with the protocol.

Member of Parliament whose term of office has been terminated shall have the right of access to the library of the National Assembly and the MP's Club.

Member of Parliament whose term of office has been terminated, for the purpose of exercising the rights stipulated in paragraphs 2 to 4 of this Article, shall be issued a permanent identification document.

The form and contents of the permanent identification document shall be prescribed by the act of the competent committee of the National Assembly.

## **VIII. PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 47**

The proceedings of the National Assembly and its working bodies shall be conducted in sittings.

### **Article 48**

The National Assembly shall be convoked for two regular sessions a year.

The first regular session shall start on the first weekday of March, while the second regular session shall start on the first weekday of October. Regular sessions may not last longer than 90 days.

The National Assembly shall be convoked for an extraordinary session upon the request of at least one third of MPs or upon the request of the Government, with previously determined agenda.

The National Assembly shall be convoked without notice when the declaration of the state of war or emergency is made.

The Speaker of the National Assembly may, for state and international holidays, convene a solemn sitting of the National Assembly and invite the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, the representatives of other bodies and organisations from the country and abroad to address the National Assembly.

The Speaker of the National Assembly may convene a special sitting at which the President of the Republic, the President or a representative of a foreign country, a foreign country parliamentary representative or a representative of an international organisation may address the National Assembly.

Upon the invitation of the Speaker of the National Assembly and depending on the matters to be discussed, the National Assembly may be addressed by the representatives of other bodies, organisations and institutions.

### **Article 49**

When deciding, approving the minutes of the sitting, setting the agenda, at the first sitting of the National Assembly and other cases stipulated by the Constitution, the law and the Rules of Procedure, a simple majority of the total number of all MPs shall have to be present.

### **Article 50**

At a sitting of the National Assembly, shorthand notes shall be taken, and/or the sitting shall be audio recorded.

At a sitting of the working bodies, shorthand notes shall be taken, and/or the sitting shall be audio recorded, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

The minutes of the sittings of the National Assembly and its working bodies shall be taken.

The taking of the minutes, their certification, filing, publishing, security measures for the protection of data presented at sittings held in camera, as well as other matters regarding the minutes shall be stipulated by the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 51**

A Committee shall decide by majority of votes of all members present at a sitting attended by the majority of the members of the committee, unless the law prescribes a special majority.

Voting in the committee shall be public.

A committee member shall have the right to single out his/her opinion, which the National Assembly shall be informed of in the committee's report.

The committee procedures shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 52**

In case of dissolution, the National Assembly, i.e. competent committee of the National Assembly shall only perform activities in progress or urgent activities, and especially:

- 1) resolve matters regarding the term of office and immunity;
- 2) carry out international cooperation in accordance with this law;
- 3) specific cases of solving material and status issues of MPs and other elected and appointed persons;
- 4) if bound by statutes of limitation or if so required by the needs of the state.

### **IX. PROCEDURES FOR ADOPTION OF ACTS AND OTHER PROCEDURES**

#### **Article 53**

The Procedures for adoption of acts and other procedures at the National Assembly shall apply to:

- 1) procedure for amendment of the Constitution;
- 2) procedure for adoption of laws;
- 3) procedure for ratification of international treaties;
- 4) procedure for adoption of the budget of the Republic of Serbia and the financial statement;
- 5) procedure for adoption of the development plan and the spatial plan of the Republic of Serbia;
- 6) procedure for previous approval of the Statute of the Autonomous Province;
- 7) procedure for adoption of declarations, resolutions, recommendations and strategies;

- 8) procedure for adoption of the Rules of Procedure and other general acts;
- 9) procedure for authentic interpretation of laws;
- 10) procedure for adoption of unique methodological rules for drafting regulations;
- 11) procedure for verification and termination of MP's term of office;
- 12) procedures for election and termination of function;
- 13) procedure for performing oversight of the work of the Government;
- 14) procedure for performing oversight of the work of security services;
- 15) procedure for dismissal of the President of the Republic;
- 16) procedure for supervision of the work of state bodies, organisations and institutions;
- 17) procedure for providing responses to the Constitutional Court requests;
- 18) procedure for deciding on war and peace and declaring state of war and emergency,

The procedures referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article as stipulated by the Constitution and the law shall be governed by the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 54**

All matters not regulated for by this Law shall be decided on by the National Assembly in accordance with democratic standards, general legal principles and the nature of the matter in question.

### **X. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC**

#### **Article 55**

The relation between the National Assembly and the President of the Republic shall be based on cooperation and rights and duties stipulated by the Constitution, the law and other acts.

The National Assembly may request information from the President of the Republic on matters within his/her purview relevant for the implementation of the National Assembly's competence.

The President of the Republic may request information from the National Assembly on matters within his/her competence relevant for the performance of the function of the President of the Republic. The Speaker of the National Assembly shall inform the President of the Republic about the holding of the sessions of the National Assembly.

The President of the Republic may address the MPs upon an invitation issued by the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The manner of realisation of relations between the National Assembly and the President of the Republic shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

## **XI. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNMENT**

### **Article 56**

Upon the request of the National Assembly, the Government shall report to the National Assembly on its work, at least once a year.

The National Assembly shall control the work of the Government or members of the Government by posing MP's questions, submitting interpellation requests, motions of a no confidence vote to the Government or particular member of the Government and by establishing inquiry committees.

Convocation and course of a sitting of the National Assembly in which the Government shall respond to MPs' questions shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

Oversight over the work of the Government or a member of the Government shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

## **XII. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT**

### **Article 57**

Upon the request of the Constitutional Court the National Assembly shall submit its reply, i.e. opinion on the proposal, initiative and decision on initiation of proceedings to assess constitutionality, i.e. legality of laws and other general acts passed by the National Assembly.

The National Assembly shall take into consideration the information from the Constitutional Court on the condition and problems in establishment of constitutionality and legality, opinions and indications of the Constitutional Court of the need to adopt and amend laws, as well as measures which need to be taken for their protection, and proposals and initiatives to initiate proceedings to assess the constitutionality of laws and other general acts passed by the National Assembly.

The manner of realization of relations between the National Assembly and the Constitutional Court shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

## **XIII. THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND OTHER STATE INSTITUTIONS, ORGANISATIONS AND BODIES**

### **Article 58**

The National Assembly shall consider reports submitted by the state institutions, organisations and bodies in accordance with the law.

The manner of realisation of relations between the National Assembly and other state institutions, organisations and other bodies shall be regulated by the Rules of Procedure.

## **XIV. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 59**

The National Assembly shall establish international cooperation within its competences with the aim of preserving and promoting peace, good neighbourly relations and cooperation on the basis of equality with all the nations and countries of the world.

The National Assembly shall establish parliamentary cooperation with the representative bodies of other countries.

#### **Article 60**

The National Assembly shall establish international cooperation:

- by delegating standing delegations to the parliamentary assemblies of international organisations;
- by exchanging delegations with international organisations;
- by participation of MPs at conferences and other forms of meetings;
- through the inter-parliamentary dialogue and other forms of cooperation with the European Parliament;
- through forming and participating in joint projects with the representative institutions of other states, parliamentary assemblies and international organisations;
- by referring delegations of the National Assembly, the Speaker of the National Assembly or individual MPs to the representative bodies of other states and by welcoming delegations of representative bodies of other states;
- by exchange of information, other materials and publications, as well as through other forms of cooperation with the representative bodies of other states;
- by forming parliamentary friendship groups.

The composition of standing delegations shall be determined by the National Assembly, and the composition of other delegations and the aims and assignments of the visiting delegations of the National Assembly shall be determined by the Speaker of the National Assembly or the competent committee of the National Assembly.

#### **Article 61**

At the National Assembly, parliamentary groups of friendship may be formed for the purpose of promoting relations and cooperation with the representative bodies of particular states, based on the voluntary principle.

Parliamentary groups of friendship shall be formed on the basis of mutually expressed interest for the establishment and development of inter-parliamentary cooperation.

The head and members of the group of friendship shall be chosen by the competent committee of the National Assembly.

When the competent committee of the National Assembly is not in a position to select the head and members of group of friendship or approve the decision on the exchange of visits with the friendship groups of the representative bodies of other states, the Speaker of the National Assembly shall decide on these matters, i.e. the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Chairperson of the competent committee of the National Assembly.

## **XV. ASSETS AND FINANCING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 62**

For the realisation of its competences, the National Assembly shall use all resources allocated in the budget of the Republic of Serbia and assets owned by the Republic of Serbia.

The National Assembly shall manage assets and resources referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article in accordance with the regulations on the budget system and regulations on the assets owned by the Republic of Serbia, unless otherwise stipulated by this law.

### **1. Assets**

#### **Article 63**

The National Assembly shall manage all assets necessary for the realisation of its competences.

The Secretary General shall be responsible for legally proper management of assets in terms of paragraph 1 of this Article.

MPs, appointed and nominated persons, as well as employees of the National Assembly Service shall be responsible for handling the assets used by the National Assembly in discharge of their duties responsibly and for the designated purpose.

Registry of the assets and other matters of importance to the management of assets as specified in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be regulated by the act of the competent committee of the National Assembly.

All matters concerning the management of the assets not regulated by this law shall be accordingly regulated by the provisions of the law regulating assets owned by the Republic of Serbia.

### **2. Financing of the National Assembly**

#### **Article 64**

The National Assembly shall independently determine and dispose of resources for the work of the National Assembly (hereinafter the parliamentary budget).

The parliamentary budget shall be a constituent part of the budget of the Republic of Serbia.

The Government may not suspend, delay or restrict the execution of the budget of the National Assembly without the approval of the Speaker of the National Assembly.

The Secretary General shall be the person responsible for instructing the use of the National Assembly budget resources.

The procedure for adoption of the National Assembly budget shall be regulated by this law and the Rules of Procedure.

#### **Article 65**

The Secretary General shall draft the National Assembly budget in accordance with the law regulating the budget system and the Rules of Procedure and shall submit it to the competent committee of the National Assembly.

The competent committee of the National Assembly shall determine the draft of the National Assembly budget and submit it to the ministry responsible for finances for an opinion.

Referring to the proposal in paragraph 2 of this Article, the Minister responsible for finances shall submit the substantiation of his/her opinion to the competent committee of the National Assembly and directly come out in a sitting of the competent committee of the National Assembly for the purpose of reaching an agreement.

In case an agreement is reached in terms of paragraph 3 of this Article, the competent committee of the National Assembly shall determine the National Assembly budget, which the competent Ministry responsible for finances shall include in the draft budget of the Republic of Serbia, and the Government in the Bill on the Budget of the Republic of Serbia, without either one amending it.

If the agreement is not reached by the competent committee of the National Assembly and the ministry responsible for finances, the Ministry shall include the draft of the National Assembly budget in terms of paragraph 2 of this Article, without amending it, in the draft budget of the Republic of Serbia, and the Government, without amending it, in the Bill on the Budget of the Republic of Serbia.

In case of paragraph 5 of this Article, the Government shall specify the reasons in its substantiation of the Bill based on which the Ministry responsible for finances finds the draft of the National Assembly budget unacceptable.

#### **Article 66**

The audit of execution of the National Assembly budget shall be conducted according to the regulations on the budget inspection and the state audit.

The internal audit of implementation of the National Assembly budget shall be conducted by the internal auditor of the National Assembly in accordance with the audit plan.

The internal auditor shall be accountable to the Secretary General.

The internal auditor shall submit reports on his or her work to the competent committee of the National Assembly and the Secretary General at least once a year.

All other matters pertaining to the realization of the function of the internal audit shall be regulated by regulations on budgeting, accounting and auditing.

#### **Article 67**

The Secretary General shall submit to the competent committee of the National Assembly quarterly reports on the use and management of the resources for the work of the National Assembly.

The competent committee shall submit to the National Assembly an annual report on the use and management of the resources for the work of the National Assembly.

### **XVI. THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SERVICE**

#### **Article 68**

Technical and other support for the National Assembly shall be provided by the National Assembly Service (hereinafter the Service).

The Service shall be managed by the Secretary General.

In managing the Service, the Secretary General shall hold the status of an official managing a state authority.

The organisation and the work of the National Assembly Service shall be regulated by the decision of the National Assembly upon proposal of the competent committee of the National Assembly.

Internal organisation and structure of the Service shall be regulated by a regulation enacted by the Secretary General upon approval of the competent committee of the National Assembly.

#### **Article 69**

The Secretary General shall pass regulations, decisions, written orders, instructions and rulings.

The Secretary General shall, in addition to the acts referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, approve the human resource plan of the Service, annual programme of the Service and multi-annual development plan of the Service.

#### **Article 70**

Laws and other regulations relating to civil servants and other employees, general regulations on labour and special collective agreement for state institutions shall be applied on the rights and duties of civil servants and other employees of the National Assembly Service.

#### **Article 71**

Directorate for Common Administrative Services of the State Institutions shall provide services for the National Assembly, relating to transportation, maintenance, servicing and garaging vehicles, and catering services.

Services of internal security and order keeping in the building and on the premises of the National Assembly shall be provided by the members of the security services of the Ministry of the Interior with the assent of the Secretary General.

#### **Article 72**

Other matters of importance for the organisation and mode of operation of the Service shall be regulated by the act of the National Assembly, and an act of the competent committee of the National Assembly in accordance with the law and the Rules of Procedure.

### **XVII. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 73**

The National Assembly shall bring in line the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly with the provisions of this Law within 120 days of the day of the present Law entering into force.

#### **Article 74**

The competent committee of the National Assembly shall pass acts more closely regulating the rights and duties of MPs in accordance with the provisions of this law within six months of the date of the present law entering into force.

**Article 75**

Acts regulating the organisation and the work of the National Assembly Service, internal organisation and structure of the Service of the National Assembly Service shall be passed within six months of the date of the present law entering into force.

**Article 76**

The competent committee of the National Assembly shall adopt acts regulating management of assets, as well as registering assets within six months of the date of the present law entering into force.

**Article 77**

Until the acts referred to in paragraphs 73 to 76 of the present Law are passed, the effective regulations concerning these areas shall be applied.

**Article 78**

This law shall enter into force a day after the date it is published in the *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*.