

<b>Official name in original language</b>	<b>Consejo General del Poder Judicial (CGPJ)</b>
<b>Official name in English</b>	General Council for the Judiciary
<b>Address</b>	Marques de la Ensenada, 8 – 28004 Madrid - Spain
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<b>Brief history</b>	Spanish General Council for the Judiciary was established in the Spanish Constitution of 1978 following similar models from neighboring countries such as France, Portugal and notably Italy. It started working as governing body of the judiciary in the year 1980
<b>Constitutional or legal status/basis</b>	The Spanish Constitution: article 122
<b>Legal acts regulating the Status</b>	Law 6/1985, July 1st, on the Judiciary (LOPJ) and amendments introduced by Law 4/2013, June 28th
<b>Composition:</b>	
Total number of members	21 members: the President of the Supreme Court, who presides over the CGPJ, plus 20 members.
Term of office	5 years
Is there a possibility to be renewed as a member?	Yes, but only for the President
Do the members have a full-time position or not?	Only 6 CGPJ's members (president and other 5 members) have full-time position (according to the last amendment introduced by the Organic Law on the Judiciary of June 2013). These members are the ones who make up the Standing Committee.
Make up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>12 judges</b>, appointed by Parliament</li> <li>- <b>8 lay members</b>, appointed by Parliament (prosecutors, professors of law, lawyers or members of other legal professions).</li> <li>- <b>President</b>. It could be a judge or a lawyer</li> </ul>
Is there a majority of Judges?	Yes, according to law 12 of the members must be judges
<b>Presidency</b>	<p><b>President:</b> President of the Supreme Court is elected at the first plenary meeting by the Members of the Council. Once is elected he also becomes President of the Council.</p> <p><b>Vice-president:</b> Vice-president of the Supreme Court is proposed by the President and elected in plenary meeting by the Members of the Council. He must be a judge of the Supreme Court. He is not a member of the CGPJ and only when the President stays away, he replaces him at the CGPJ.</p>

**Main Competences:**

Career of judges and / or prosecutors Appointment, transfer and promotion of judges is competence of the CGPJ

Judicial training The Judicial School that is in charge of initial and continuous training is under the umbrella of the Council

Discipline Disciplinary procedure is under the competence of the CGPJ

Ethics No code of conduct, nor set of rules or principles in the field of judicial ethics, has been specifically issued for the judiciary in Spain

Opinions on legislation / other opinions The CGPJ has the competence to issue opinions and recommendations on legal acts on judiciary matters, procedural rules if related to fundamental rights, criminal law and penitentiary law

**Status of decisions** Administrative decisions

**Review** All decisions of the CGPJ can be challenged by way of judicial review (before the Administrative Division of the Supreme Court)

**Budget** According to articles 107 and 127 of the Law on the Judiciary, the Council itself is in charge of preparing the proposal of budget that must be approved by the Parliament  
Once the proposal has been sent to the Parliament, there is not any debate between Council and Parliament. So far Parliament has never amended that proposal  
Budget covers:  

- Selection of judges
- Initial and continuous training
- Judicial Documentation Center
- Judicial Inspectorate
- International activities
- Human and material resources of the Council itself