

Questionnaire of the First IAJ Study Group - 2023

“The Effects of Remote Work on the Judicial Workplace and the Administration of Justice”

Kazakhstan:

1-question

a. Before the COVID-19 pandemic there was no remote working. During the COVID-19 pandemic, judges were allowed to work remotely. By remote access to the Torelik system, incoming lawsuits, files and civil cases were studied and judicial acts were prepared; plenary sessions, meetings and seminars with colleagues were held via videoconference. Hearings of cases were conducted online via videoconferencing, mobile applications. To enable judges to work remotely, software was installed on personal computers and laptops.

b. Judges do not currently work remotely. The remote working status of judges in Kazakhstan is inactive.

2-question

a. It is difficult to answer because it was a short time we used to work remotely.

b. It does not.

c. It is difficult to answer to this question as judicial work in general does not depend on remote working as the technical possibilities allow for both regular and remote working.

We assume that in the future remote working will be one of the most common working conditions as developments in digital technology will make it possible to conduct trials and hear cases without being present in the courtroom. We believe that it can find its widespread application in the judicial system as well.

3-question

a. The administration of justice does not depend on working remotely.

b. The administration of justice does not depend on working remotely.

c. It is difficult to answer as there is no such information.

d. On the positive side we can reflect: convenience for the participants of the trial (no travel expenses, etc.); accessibility of the trial for all parties of the proceedings, where each participant can be heard (as practice shows, not always people have the opportunity to travel to the district centre from remote villages, urban centres).

At the same time there is poor internet coverage of the other party involved in the process, especially in remote communities.

4-question

We believe that remote working has no impact on judicial independence.

5-question

- a. Yes, in closed trials, in criminal cases.
- b. There are no proposals.
- c. We believe not, not at this stage.

Proposal for the 2024 theme: Please provide your suggestions for possible themes for consideration in 2024 together with your answers to this questionnaire.

No proposals.