

Comprehensive review of the conditions for the administration of justice in Ukraine

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The conditions under which the judicial system operates

Air raids, airstrikes,

Missile and drone attacks,

Power and heating outages,

Lack of resources,

Lack of judges (4735 operate, 2298 vacant) and staff

Kharkiv Appeal Court – 11 judges (49 vacant), the selection procedure is ongoing. Civil Court of Cassation – 37 judges (16 vacant), no selection procedure.

The total duration of air alerts was almost 735 hours (over 30 days) in Kyiv (2025).

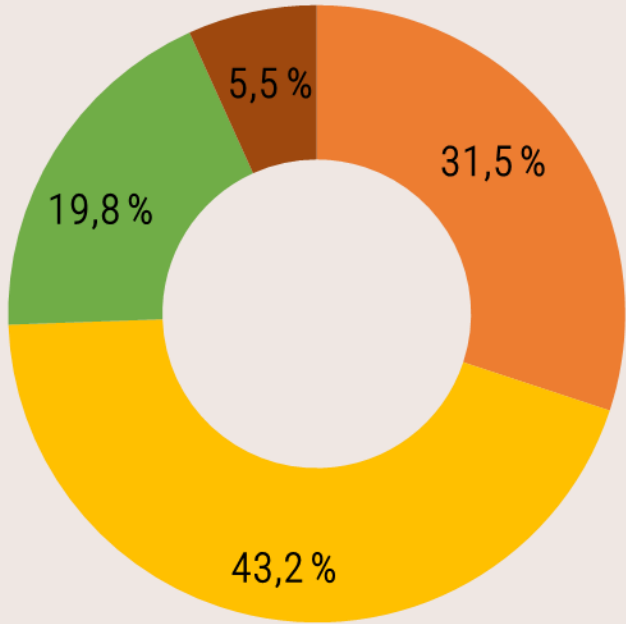
Cases and materials pending before the courts of Ukraine in 2024 and 2025

Pending in 2024:
5,320,486

■ Civil proceedings (1,673,404)

■ Criminal proceedings (total: 2,296,652), including: cases and materials of criminal proceedings (564,131); materials considered by investigating judges (726,368); cases on administrative offences (992,832); High Anti-Corruption Court (HACC), Criminal Cassation Court (CrimCC), Grand Chamber of the Supreme Court (SC GC) (22,821)

■ Administrative proceedings (1,057,908)

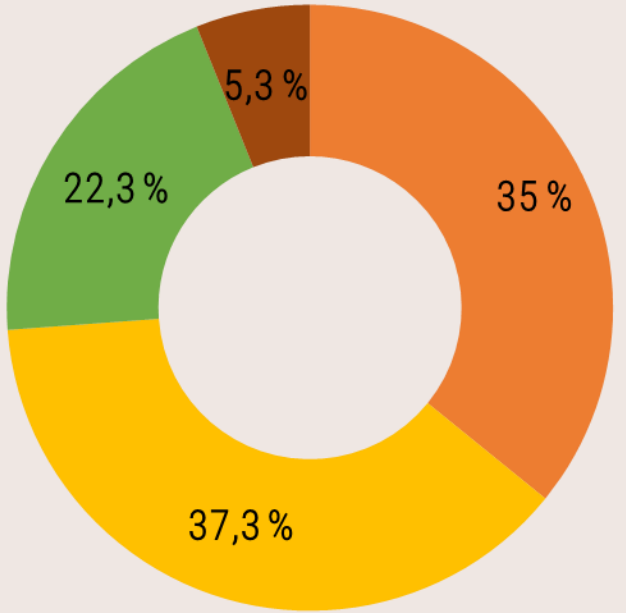


Pending in 2025:
5,815,504

■ Civil proceedings (2,038,315)

■ Criminal proceedings (total: 2,168,014), including: cases and materials of criminal proceedings (558,705); materials considered by investigating judges (726,175); cases on administrative offences (861,009); High Anti-Corruption Court (HACC), Criminal Cassation Court (CrimCC), Grand Chamber of the Supreme Court (SC GC) (22,821)

■ Commercial proceedings (309,538)



The conditions under which the judicial system operates

In 2025, courts of all instances and jurisdictions had 5.8 million cases under consideration, of which 4.6 million were decided, compared to 5.3 million cases under consideration and 4.4 million disposed of in 2024. In particular, 4.1 million cases were filed with courts of first instance in 2025, 716 thousand with appellate courts, and 93 thousand cases and materials were referred to the Supreme Court.

During 2025, the Supreme Court (147 judges) considered 91 thousand cases and materials.

The largest number of cases received and considered by the Supreme Court were:

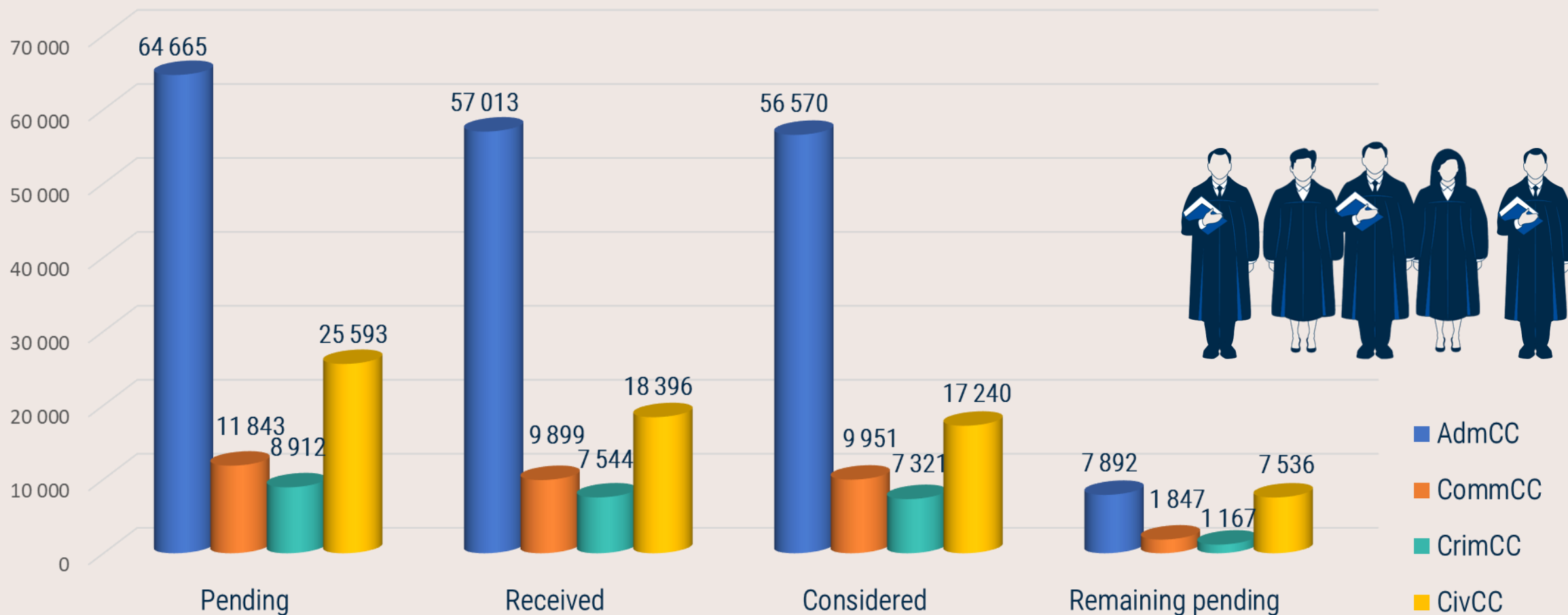
57 thousand in administrative proceedings;

18 thousand in civil proceedings;

10 thousand in commercial proceedings;

7 thousand in criminal proceedings.

Processing of procedural applications and cases by the cassation courts of the Supreme Court in 2025



The conditions under which the judicial system operates

In 2025, 4.1 million cases were filed with courts of first instance (3 460 judges), including:

- civil proceedings cases – 1.5 million (1.2 million in 2024);
- criminal proceedings cases – 909 thousand (930 thousand in 2024);
- cases of administrative offences – 747 thousand (870 thousand in 2024);
- administrative proceedings cases – 670 thousand (570 thousand in 2024);
- commercial proceedings cases – 208 thousand (190 thousand in 2024).

4.4 million cases were decided by first instance courts (an average of 1 200 per judge)

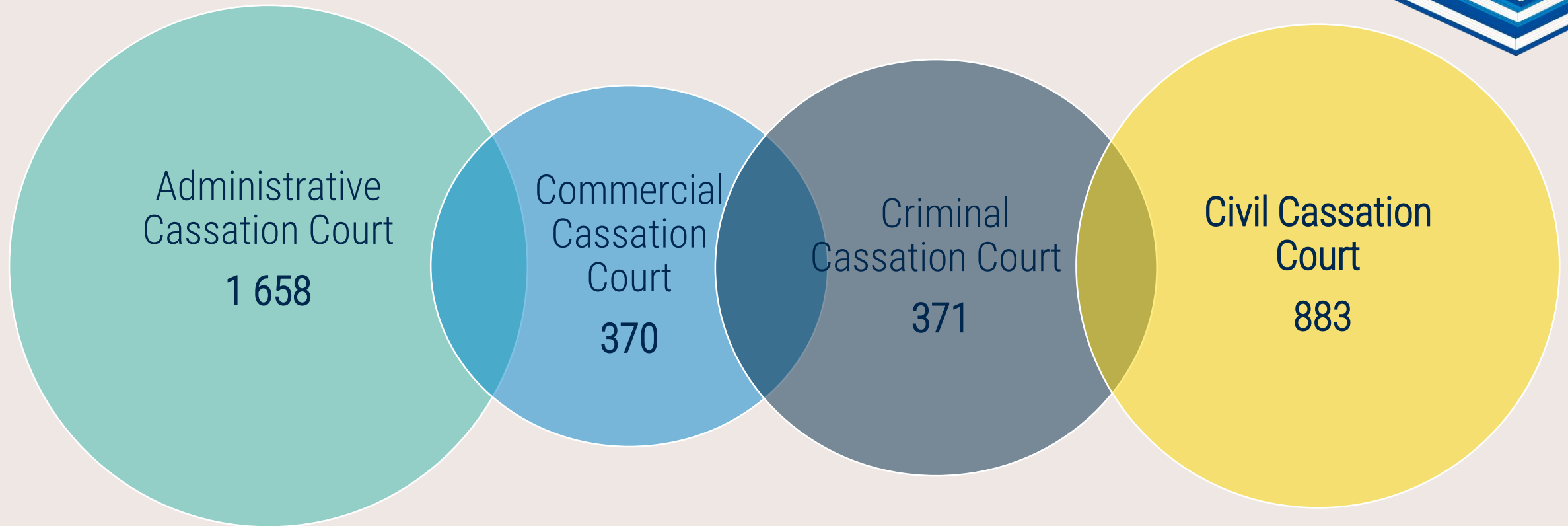
In the district courts of Kyiv the workload per judge exceeds 3 000 cases

The conditions under which the judicial system operates

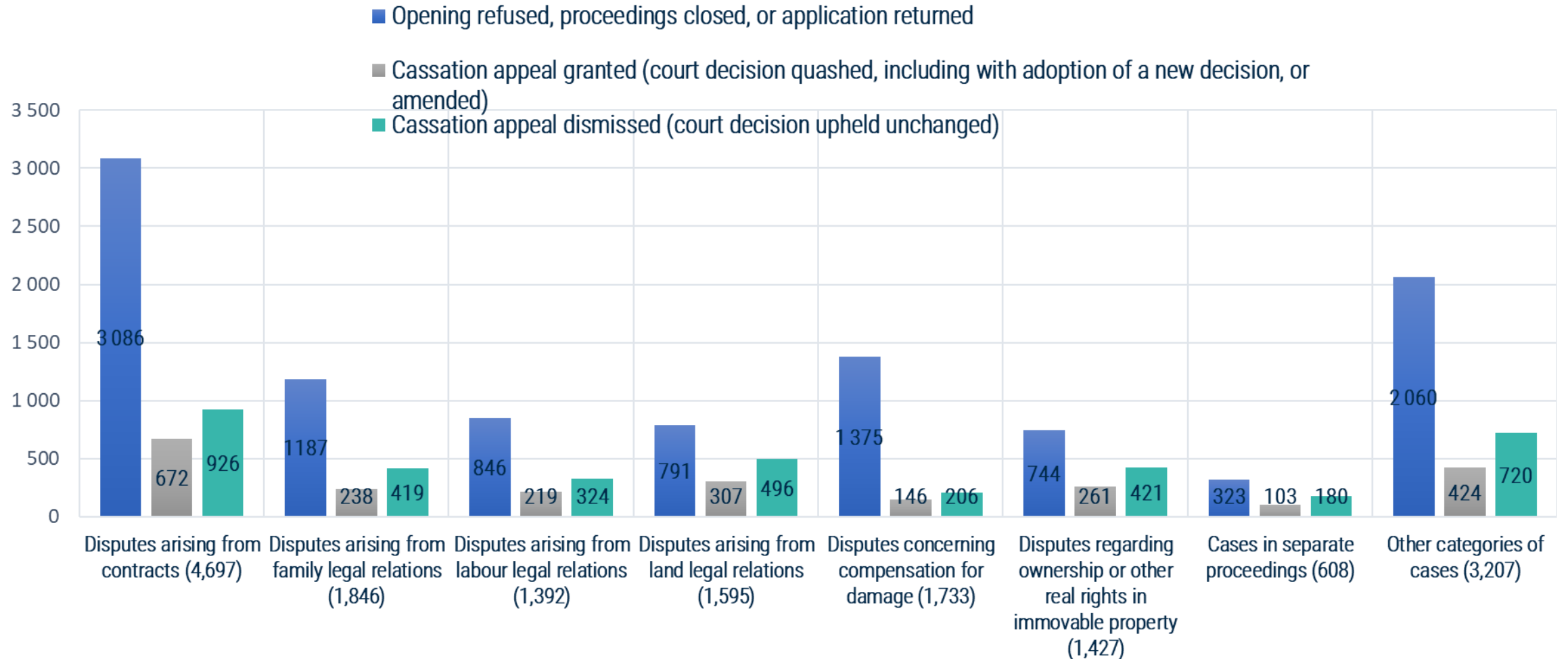
The annual workload per Supreme Court judge is 636 cases.

There are Grand Chamber and four Cassation Courts (Civil, Criminal, Commercial and Administrative)

Average number of pending cases and materials per judge in the cassation courts of the Supreme Court in 2025



Consideration by the Civil Cassation Court of cases by individual categories during 2025



This winter's realities

In a three-story building on the Left Bank of Kyiv, one of the two premises of the Dnipro District Court, the power outages began in November last year. Since January 15, 2026 there was no heating, and in early February there was no water supply for three days. This premises is equipped with one gasoline generator, the power of which is barely enough to operate the server room and two courtrooms (urgent proceedings) located on the second floor of the court. Another court building has one gasoline generator, which is only enough to operate the archive, three departments of the court, two courtrooms, and the guard room. Some windows were broken after one of the sheelings. Due to the low voltage of the power supply, the switchboard in the court burned down three times, and wires melt almost every day. For three days in February, when the court had no water supply, judges and staff could not use the restroom. So they visited a nearby McDonald's or a shopping mall, where they could eat a hot meal once a day and use the restroom. That is, for two months of winter, the court worked in premises where the temperature was from -5 to + 5, the automatic assignment of cases was barely carried out, and judges and staff were forced to go to the restroom in the shopping mall or McDonald's. The representatives of the court informed that State Judicial Administration did nothing.

The current situation of the judiciary and its functioning under martial law

- 88 courts of appeal and local courts do not operate justice
- 160 buildings are damaged or completely destroyed



In the foreground is the building of the Lviv Court of Appeal

On March 24, 2026, a Russian drone attack damaged the ensemble of the Bernardine Monastery (St. Andrew's Church) in Lviv



As a result of the attack by Geran/Shahed type strike drones on the courthouse on the night of September 28-29, 2025 the Pokrovsky District Court building was completely destroyed.



Верховний Суд



Overview of the state of the administration of justice

As a result of the attack by Geran/Shahed type strike drones on the courthouse on the night of April, 02, the Synelnykivsky District Court building was seriously damaged.



The hacker attack by the aggressor state on the electronic resources and databases of the Supreme Court took place on June 6, 2025

Software was damaged, access to electronic services and databases was lost. This led to the impossibility of receiving correspondence, sending letters, performing automated distribution of cases between judges, signing with an electronic signature and sending court decisions.

Part of the information contained in the automated document management system for the period from June 2 to 5 was lost.

June 13th, automatic case distribution resumed.

June 20th, processing of documents, submitted through the Electronic Court System from June 5th, started again.

Irrecoverable losses

In September 2024, Supreme Court Judge Leonid Loboyko was killed in the village of Kozacha Lopan, Kharkiv Oblast, as a result of an attack by russian drone while delivering humanitarian aid.



The right of access to justice during the wartime

According to the Constitution of Ukraine, the right to judicial protection cannot be limited even during martial law.



The functioning and transformation of the justice system is a daily victory

This is the time to truly serve the state, society, and the rule of law.

Ukrainian judges demonstrate an example of commitment to democracy, protection of human rights.

Justice in martial law

- Justice in the territory where martial law has been implemented is carried out only by courts.
- In this area courts established in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine administrate the justice.
- Reduction or acceleration of any forms of judicial proceedings is prohibited.
- In case of impossibility to administer justice by courts operating in the territory where martial law has been enacted, the territorial jurisdiction of court cases or the location of the courts can be changed according to the procedure established by law.
- Establishing of extraordinary or special courts is not allowed.



Justice in martial law

- Ukrainian courts have to postpone hearings because of air alerts, lack of electricity, heating, Internet connections.
- Quite big number of case files have been lost and cannot be fully restored as a result of occupation.
- Suspension (stopping) of proceedings due to the fact that a party to the case is a member of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (In accordance with the Civil Procedure Code, the court must stop the proceedings in case if a party is in the Armed Forces of Ukraine during martial law).
- Transferring judges from the occupied territories to other regions. Over 500 judges have been seconded from courts whose venue was changed.
- Changing the venue (territorial jurisdiction was shifted to courts in the territories controlled by Ukraine) of nearly 175 courts due to the inability to administer justice during the martial law (60 courts – venue restored; 96 courts – in the occupied territories).

The Supreme Court ruled on the limited judicial immunity of aggressor state

The Supreme Court formulated a conclusion on the judicial immunity of the state-aggressor in the case of compensation for damage caused by the aggressor state



The Civil Cassation Court of the Supreme Court has reiterated its position on the absence of judicial immunity in state-aggressor and provided additional arguments



Determining the subject of judicial immunity, the Supreme Court took into account the following:

- the subject of the claim is compensation for moral damage caused to individuals, citizens of Ukraine, as a result of the death of others Ukrainians;
- the place of infliction of damage is the territory of the sovereign state – Ukraine;
- it is assumed that the damage was caused by agents of the aggressor state, who violated the principles enshrined in the UN Charter regarding the prohibition of military aggression committed against another state;
- the commission of acts of armed aggression by a foreign state is not the exercise of its sovereign rights, but indicates a violation of the obligation to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of another state of Ukraine, which is enshrined in the UN Charter;
- the national legislation of Ukraine proceeds that generally damage caused in Ukraine to an individual as a result of the unlawful actions of any other person (entity) may be compensated by a decision of a court of Ukraine (according to the principle of "general tort").

The Supreme Court proceeds from the fact that in the case of application of the "tort exception", dispute that has arisen on its territory with a citizens of Ukraine under mentioned circumstances may be resolved by a court of Ukraine as an appropriate and competent court.

The International Register for Damage Caused by Aggression by an Aggressor State (RD4U)

Council of Europe Convention on the Establishment of an International Compensation Commission, 2023

The Register operates to document evidence of damage caused after 24 February 2022 and is the basis for future reparations.

The Register is designed to record all admissible claims for damages (currently 150 000), losses or harm caused as a result of aggression in or against Ukraine.

The Register will not consider or assess the merits of the applications received and will not establish the value of damages or award any payments. These will be the functions of a future international compensation mechanism, to be established by a separate international instrument. The Register is only a first step towards such a mechanism.

Accountability

The High Council of Justice receives an average of 10,000 complaints each year.

In 2024, 145 judges were held accountable (33 dismissed, 59 warnings, 18 reprimands, 6 severe reprimands, 2 suspended, in 2025 - 118 (48 dismissed, 64 warnings, 19 reprimands, 11 severe reprimands, 1 suspended) For actions that discredit the title of judge, 53 judges were dismissed during this period.

Crimes committed during a full-scale invasion

Crimes of aggression and war crimes - about 220,000 crimes registered.

Crimes against national security - about 24 580 crimes registered.

686 children were killed, 2 382 children were injured.

The "main" criminal case on aggression is a large-scale proceeding initiated by the Prosecutor General's Office to record the crimes of the top military-political leadership of the aggressor state – 739 suspects.



Верховний
Суд



Optimal and effective mechanisms for resolving current problems of protecting the rights of military personnel, their family members, and internally displaced persons both under martial law and in the post-war period.

Despite all the challenges, including those I have already mentioned, the judiciary, remains a key guarantor of the rule of law. It provides reliable protection of human rights and freedoms, acting as a guarantee of justice in these difficult times.

There is still a lot of work ahead, but we are ready for new challenges, because we have a clear goal, strong and dedicated people, and a common desire to live in a democratic and legal state (President of the Supreme Court – Stanislav Kravchenko).



Thank you for your attention!