President picks four candidates for Slovenia's ECHR judge

Ljubljana, 9 November - President Borut Pahor has picked four candidates for Slovenia's judge on the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) from a list of five proposed by the government and judicial council. The National Assembly will now select three names for the ECHR to pick the successor for Boštjan M. Zupančič, whose term ends on 31 October.

The president has picked Supreme Court Judge Nina Betetto, lawyer Marko Bošnjak, constitutional law professor Klemen Jaklič and criminal law and criminology professor Nina Peršak.

The proposal was sent to parliamentary Speaker Milan Brglez on Monday, in which Pahor says that "all proposed candidates have performed numerous posts in different domestic and international expert groups".

The National Assembly will now select three candidates out of the four in a secret ballot that requires absolute majority.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe will then pick the new Slovenian judge from the three names based on an opinion from the consultative panel of experts of the ECHR.

This is the second attempt to appoint the new Slovenian ECHR judge. In the first one, in April, Pahor was dissatisfied with the candidates and refused to put forward nominees.

The tenure of Slovenia's current ECHR judge, Boštjan M. Zupančič, ends on 31 October. ECHR judges are elected for a six-year term with the possibility of reappointment.