

RESOLUTION No. 3/2014
of the Extraordinary Assembly of Polish Attorneys at Law
of 22 November 2014

regarding the Code of Ethics of Attorney at Law

Pursuant to Article 57.7 of the Act on Attorneys at Law of 6 July 1982 (Journal of Laws from 2014, items 637 and 993), the following is passed:

§1.

The Assembly hereby adopts the Code of Ethics of Attorney at Law as enclosed herewith.

§2.

The previous regulations shall apply to the events before the effective date hereof.

§3.

Resolution No. 5/2007 of Assembly of Polish Attorneys at Law No. 8 of 10 November 2007 regarding adoption of the Code of Ethics of Attorneys at Law shall be repealed.

§4.

The Resolution shall come into effect on 1 July 2015.

Chairman
of the Commission of Motions and
Resolutions

Zbigniew Pawlak

Chairman
of the Extraordinary Assembly
of Polish Attorneys at Law

Ryszard Ostrowski

CODE OF ETHICS OF ATTORNEY AT LAW

Attorneys at law practising the unregulated profession in an autonomous and independent manner act in the interests of justice and also in the interests of those whose rights and liberties have been vested in them for protection. The profession of an attorney at law, protected under the Constitution of the Republic of Poland, is one of the guarantees ensuring respect for law. It is the profession of public trust which respects the ethical ideals and obligations shaped in the process of its practising. Defining the rules of conduct of the profession and of the bar leads to a dignified and fair practice as an attorney at law.

Part 1

General Provisions

Article 1

The provisions of the following Code of Ethics of Attorney at Law, hereinafter referred to as the Code, shall apply to attorneys at law and, respectively, legal trainees, and also – to the extent specified in separate regulations – foreign lawyers providing legal assistance within the territory of the Republic of Poland to the extent corresponding to the practice of attorney at law.

Article 2

1. Attorneys at law providing legal assistance abroad shall comply herewith as well as with the rules of professional ethics of the host country.

2. When providing cross-border legal services, attorneys at law shall comply with the provisions of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE) Code of Conduct, including when it comes to:
 - 1) their professional contacts with lawyers from other CCBE Member States, and
 - 2) professional activities of attorneys at law within the territory of another CCBE Member State, regardless of whether they are actually present there.

Article 3

1. Any violation of the Code shall be the basis for disciplinary liability.
2. Subject to section 3 below, attorneys at law and legal trainees shall not be held disciplinarily liable for an act committed before being entered onto the list of attorneys at law or the list of legal trainees.
3. Attorneys at law shall also be held disciplinarily liable for an act committed after being entered onto the list of legal trainees.

Article 4

In professional practice, attorneys at law shall use solely the professional title of attorney at law (*PL: radca prawny*). This shall not restrict their right to communicate other professional titles or academic degrees that they might hold.

Article 5

Whenever the Code refers to:

- 1) the Act on Attorneys at Law – this shall be understood as the Act on Attorneys at Law of 6 July 1982;
- 2) the Act on Foreign Lawyers – this shall be understood as the Act on Provision of Legal Assistance by Foreign Lawyers within the Republic of Poland of 5 July 2002;
- 3) The CCBE Code of Conduct – this shall be understood as the Code of Conduct of European Lawyers adopted by the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe and considered as binding upon attorneys at law by Resolution No. 8/2010 of Assembly of Polish Attorneys at Law No. 9 of 6 November 2010;
- 4) client – this shall be understood as anyone to whom legal assistance is rendered by an attorney at law;

- 5) a law firm – this shall be understood as any form of organisational and legal practice of the attorney at law, as provided for by the Act on Attorneys at Law;
- 6) a person with whom under the law an attorney at law may jointly practise the profession – this shall be understood as the person who, in accordance with the Act on Attorneys at Law, can be a partner to a partnership where the said attorney at law practises their profession;
- 7) the closest person – this shall be understood as the person referred to in Article 115 §11 of the Criminal Code;
- 8) a document – this shall be understood as the document within the meaning of Article 115 §14 of the Criminal Code.

Part 2

Fundamental Profession Principles and Values and Ethical Obligations of Attorneys at Law

Article 6

Having regard to the content of the oath set out in the Act on Attorneys at Law, attorneys at law shall practise their profession fairly and honestly, in accordance with the law as well as the rules of professional ethics and principles of morality.

Article 7

1. The independence of the practice of an attorney at law is a guarantee of the protection of civil rights and liberties, of a democratic state of law as well as of the proper functioning of the judicial system.
2. In professional practice, attorneys at law shall be free from any influence arising from their personal interests, an outside pressure and any interference from a party for any reason. Neither any instruction expressed by anyone nor any suggestion limiting their independence or any advice offered shall affect the position presented by an attorney at law in any given case.
3. Attorneys at law shall not violate the rules of professional ethics or discharge of their professional duties in order to meet the expectations of a client or a third party.

Article 8

When providing legal assistance to clients, attorneys at law shall be loyal to and shall be directed by the interests of the client in order to protect their rights.

Article 9

The protection of professional secrecy shall be the right and duty of attorneys at law. It shall be the basis for client's trust and a guarantee of rights and liberties.

Article 10

The duty of the attorney at law to avoid any conflict of interests is to ensure independence and observance of professional secrecy as well as loyalty to the client.

Article 11

1. Attorneys at law shall take care of the dignity of their profession not only in professional practice, but also during their public activity and private life.
2. The conduct of the attorney at law which could discredit them in the eye of the public or undermine confidence in the profession of the attorney at law shall be deemed a compromise of the dignity of the profession of an attorney at law in particular.

Article 12

1. Attorneys at law shall practise their profession conscientiously and with due diligence taking into account the professional nature of the activity.
2. Attorneys at law shall not take up a case if they do not have sufficient knowledge or experience. They can accept the case, however, if they ensure cooperation with other attorneys at law, advocates or other persons, who have adequate knowledge or experience and with whom under the law attorneys at law may jointly practise the profession.
3. When providing legal assistance, attorneys at law shall treat all clients with respect, exercise restraint as well as discretion in their statements, and restraint from demonstrating their personal attitude to the parties and participants in the proceedings, the court or the authority before which they act.

Article 13

Attorneys at law shall be responsible for the bar of attorneys at law (the bar) and shall be guided by the principles of solidarity in their mutual relations.

Article 14

1. Attorneys at law shall take care of their professional development by undertaking continuing education.
2. Attorneys at law shall participate in professional training courses as specified by the competent authority of the bar.

Part 3

Practice

Chapter 1

Professional Secrecy

Article 15

1. Attorneys at law shall keep secret all information about the client and their affairs, whether disclosed by the client or obtained in any other manner in connection with the performance of any of their professional duties and regardless of the source of such information or the form and manner of its recording (professional secrecy).
2. The professional secrecy rule shall apply to documents drafted by attorneys at law and to any correspondence between them and their clients or those participating in the case – prepared for legal assistance purposes.
3. The professional secrecy rule shall also apply to information disclosed to attorneys at law prior to undertaking their professional duties, if the circumstances of the case are such that it can be shown that the disclosure was undertaken to provide legal assistance and was justified by the expectation that the attorney at law would provide the same.

Article 16

Observance of the duty of professional secrecy shall cover not only the ban on disclosure of information and documents referred to in Article 15 above, but also the ban on their use for one's own benefit or for the benefit of another person, unless the law or the Code provides otherwise.

Article 17

The duty of professional secrecy shall not be limited in time and it shall continue to apply after the termination of the professional practice.

Article 18

Attorneys at law shall request the participation of a representative of the bar in any search which could potentially lead to the disclosure of professional secrecy.

Article 19

Attorneys at law shall undertake all the measures prescribed by the law in order to avoid or limit the possibility of discharging them from the duty of professional secrecy.

Article 20

Attorneys at law shall not submit the motion for evidence to be heard as a witness in the case of another attorney at law or any other person with whom under the law an attorney at law may jointly practise the profession – to establish the circumstances covered by their duty of professional secrecy.

Article 21

Attorneys at law shall keep secret, even before the courts or other bodies adjudicating in a case, the course as well as the content of the settlement negotiations in which they took an active part.

Article 22

Attorneys at law should clearly oblige those cooperating with them in professional practice to observe the principle of confidentiality within the scope of their own professional secrecy, indicating their liability at law relating to the disclosure of professional secrecy.

Article 23

Attorneys at law shall secure from an unauthorized disclosure any information covered by professional secrecy, regardless of its form and method of recording. Documents and carriers with confidential information shall be stored in the manner that protects them from damage, distortion or disappearance. Appropriate access control and a system protecting against operation disruption, unauthorised access or data loss shall be applied to the documents and carriers stored in an electronic form. Attorneys at law shall control the access to such documents and carriers by any persons cooperating with them.

Article 24

When upon the client's request an attorney at law forwards to the competent authorities a notice of offence suspicion, the information about which was disclosed in connection with the provision of legal assistance, they shall clearly indicate that they do so on behalf of and as mandated by the client.

Chapter 2

Forbidden Activities and Conflict of Interest

Article 25

1. Attorneys at law shall neither handle any matters nor in any other way participate in the activities which could undermine their independence, dignity of the profession or confidence in them, or which could threaten the breach of professional secrecy.
2. Attorneys at law shall not in secret from their clients participate or assist third parties in the provision of legal assistance by them for profit, in particular as persons that lend the name or act as silent partners or assistants.

Article 26

1. Attorneys at law shall not provide legal assistance if professional practice could violate professional secrecy or create a significant risk of its breach, or else restriction of their independence; or if their knowledge of the affairs of another client or persons for whom they have previously performed their professional duties would give the client unfair advantage.

2. If the circumstances referred to in section 1 above appear during the conduct of the case, attorneys at law shall forsake the case, in particular by terminating the power of attorney.
3. The duties referred to in sections 1 and 2 above shall also apply to the attorneys at law receiving the substitute power of attorney.

Article 27

Attorneys at law shall not provide legal assistance if:

- 1) they have participated in the case as a representative of public authority or as a person holding a public function, or as an arbitrator, mediator or an expert;
- 2) they have previously testified as a witness in the case concerning the circumstances of that case;
- 3) the closest person or a person who for any reason depends on the attorney at law took or is taking part in the settlement of the case;
- 4) the case concerns an attorney at law, an advocate or another person with whom under the law an attorney at law may jointly practise the profession, provided they practise the profession at the same time and for the same client;
- 5) they were or are in close relations with the opponent of their client or any person interested in detrimental to the client outcome of the case; or
- 6) the closest person represents the opposite party or otherwise provided legal assistance on their behalf in this matter.

Article 28

1. Attorneys at law shall not defend or represent clients if their interests are contradictory in the same case or in a related case.
2. Attorneys at law shall not defend or represent a client if their opponent is also a client of the attorney at law concerned in any case.
3. Attorneys at law shall not defend or represent a client whose interests are contrary to the interests of persons on behalf of whom the attorneys at law have previously practised in the same case or in a related case.

Article 29

1. Attorneys at law shall not advise:
 - 1) the clients whose interests are contradictory to the interests of other clients in the same case or in a related case; or
 - 2) the clients if their interests are contradictory in the same case or in a related case to the interests of other persons on whose behalf the attorney at law has practised.
2. The bans on advising, referred to in section 1 above, shall not apply if a client or clients, or persons on whose behalf the attorney at law has previously practised, gave their approval for such an action. Attorneys at law shall not however obtain such approval if they are or were a defence attorney in a criminal case on behalf of at least one of these persons.
3. The approval shall be given in writing, after a written notice by an attorney at law to the client or clients, or any persons on whose behalf the attorney at law has previously practised of the circumstances constituting the essence of the conflict of interest as well as its source, the effects of the proposed course of action, any associated risk as well as any possible, or excluded by such approval, alternative activities.

Article 30

1. Attorneys at law shall not provide legal assistance to clients if in a particular case or a related case between the latter and the former there is a conflict of interests or a substantial risk of its occurrence, and also where the professional duties relate to the persons or property of the attorneys at law or the closest persons, unless such an action refers to the claims, actions or interests which are common with the clients.
2. Any property transaction between the attorneys at law and their clients shall be preceded by informing the latter about important elements of the future agreement so that the latter has the opportunity to seek advice from another lawyer. This shall not apply to the transactions made in the ordinary course of business of the client.

Chapter 3
Communication of Practice and Client Acquisition

Article 31

1. Attorneys at law shall have the right to communicate that they practise their profession.
2. The communication shall be an action initiated by an attorney at law which does not constitute a direct offer to enter into an agreement with a particular client, regardless of its form, content and technical measures.
3. The communication may include but not be limited to the following:
 - 1) full name (with a photo), curriculum vitae, professional titles (including those entitling to perform a different profession of public trust), academic degrees and titles, qualifications, experience and professional skills resulting from the professional practice to date, functions and positions, the capacity to provide legal assistance in other languages, preferred areas of professional practice, commencement date of practice in a law firm or a partnership, list of publications relating to the profession, awarded professional titles or awards;
 - 2) the logo of the Polish Bar Association, the legal form of profession practice along with the unambiguous identification of the registered office and address of the law firm (its location and travel access), a form of contact with clients (including via electronic communication), the terms of providing legal assistance, the terms of fee calculation (including its form or amount), names of the partners and their positions at the law firm, identification of persons or companies/partnerships with which the attorney at law cooperates on a regular basis, including those performing services relating to the provision of legal assistance, the amount of professional third-party insurance coverage;
 - 3) information about the exercise of some other acceptable activity by the attorney at law which relates to the provision of legal assistance;
 - 4) information useful in creating, maintaining and fostering the trust as well as good relationships with the client, and in creating a positive image of the attorney at law, including in particular the mission, strategy and business profile of the law firm, the terms of cooperation with clients, the terms and procedures for lodging complaints, the details of facilities available to clients;

- 5) information about participating in legal rankings and about any places obtained – provided they are conducted on the terms established by a resolution of the competent authority of the bar; and
- 6) references, referrals, types of cases, transactions or processes handled and financial performance of the law firm.

Article 32

It is forbidden to provide information which is contrary to law or principles of morality, or which violates the dignity of the profession of attorneys at law, and in particular:

- 1) the information which is factually incorrect or misleading;
- 2) the information which is violating professional secrecy;
- 3) the information which is limiting client's freedom of choice, involving the invoking of personal influence or connections, abusing the credulity or forced position, abusing confidence, exerting pressure, giving unreliable promises or guarantees;
- 4) the information being imposing in character, in particular through violating privacy;
- 5) the information containing a direct comparison of the quality of professional duties with the duties of other persons who can be identified; or
- 6) the information containing a list of clients or data enabling their identification, unless they have given their approval therefor; attorneys at law shall not however provide information about clients or about conducted on their behalf criminal, fiscal criminal, misdemeanour, family and guardianship cases.

Article 33

1. Client acquisition shall be each action by an attorney at law which constitutes a direct offer to enter into an agreement with a particular client, regardless of its form and technical measures.
2. Attorneys at law may acquire clients in the manner respecting the law, principles of morality and dignity of the profession.

Article 34

1. Attorneys at law shall not accept a fee or other benefit for referring a client to another entity providing legal assistance or related services.
2. The ban referred to in section 1 above shall not apply to the retainer fee or some other benefit for taking over the legal practice or its part, including sale of business or its part,

from an attorney at law, advocate or another person with whom under the law an attorney at law may jointly practise the profession, or their heirs.

Article 35

Attorneys at law may communicate that they practise the profession, acquire clients and practise electronically if they:

- 1) can always be unambiguously identified as a sender or recipient, in particular via e-mail addresses or other identifiers;
- 2) do not use electronic communication in an anonymous way or for the benefit of the persons who cannot be unambiguously identified as specific clients, recipients or senders, in particular over the Internet;
- 3) they do not use the available electronic means of communication in the manner contrary to law, principles of morality or principles of the Code, in particular by creating solutions resulting in false, misleading, judgmental indications or information, or by impeding market access by other attorneys at law;
- 4) use the activities available electronically in the manner that guarantees separation of their profession from their personal beliefs, views, attitudes and activities, including their other professional activities;
- 5) do not issue, inspire nor pay third parties for issuing positive or negative opinions, comments, instructions, recommendations or references regarding the practice of the profession by themselves or other persons with whom under the law attorneys at law may jointly practise the profession, particularly in an anonymous, false or misleading manner;
- 6) protect and care about the availability of data processed electronically through periodic archiving; and
- 7) protect professional secrecy, communicating in the content of electronic correspondence its confidential nature; the protection is to be considered adequate if the client, after having been informed about the dangers associated with the use of electronic means, has approved, implicitly or expressly, the means, techniques, methods, systems and standards used in the electronic communications.

Chapter 4
Fee of Attorneys at Law and Client Funds

Article 36

1. The fee of the attorney at law shall cover the retainer and expenses. The amount of the fee or the method of its determination shall be agreed upon with the client prior to the provision of legal assistance.
2. The amount of the retainer shall be determined taking into account the necessary amount of work required, any specialised knowledge, skills and relevant experience, the degree of difficulty and complexity of the case, its precedent or unusual character, place and time of the service or other special conditions required by the client, the importance of the case for the client, the liability connected with the conduct of the case, the loss or limitation of the opportunity to acquire other clients as well as the kind of relationship with the client.
3. Attorneys at law shall not enter into agreement with clients, under which the latter agree to pay a retainer for the conduct of the case only upon its successful outcome, unless the law provides otherwise. What is permissible, however, is an agreement which provides for an additional retainer for a successful outcome of the case, concluded prior to the final resolution of the case.
4. Attorneys at law are not required to settle case fees or expenses on behalf of the client. Attorneys at law shall not be held liable for the legal consequences that may arise as a result of the failure to pay the same.
5. Attorneys at law shall not refrain from acting in the case conducted due to non-obtainment of the set retainer fee or any part thereof. However, if the client does not settle this amount, the attorney at law shall be entitled to terminate the mandate and the power of attorney.

Article 37

1. Any money, securities or other property assets of the client held by an attorney at law shall be properly isolated and deposited in an account separate from other accounts of the said attorney at law, provided such deposit is possible. This shall not relate to any funds handed over to the attorney at law for the purposes of covering any case fees and expenses.

2. Attorneys at law shall inform clients about the place of such deposit and the methods used to secure such funds.
3. Any trading in the assets referred to in section 1 above, including that made between the attorney at law and the client, shall be adequately recorded and documented.
4. Attorneys at law shall not transfer any funds from the separate accounts to their own accounts under a fee without a written client approval.
5. Attorneys at law shall – upon the request of the client or a person on whose behalf they have practised – release the funds referred to in section 1 immediately or on the terms approved by the client or the person concerned.

Chapter 5

Freedom of speech and writing

Article 38

1. When making use of the freedom of speech and writing in practising the profession, attorneys at law shall not go beyond the limits set by law and material needs.
2. In their professional appearances, attorneys at law shall not threaten with a criminal prosecution or a disciplinary action.
3. Attorneys at law shall not knowingly provide false information, but they shall not be liable for the accuracy of information obtained from the client.
4. Attorneys at law shall be liable for the form and content of the pleadings and other documents they have drafted in connection with the provision of legal assistance.
5. In their appearances, attorneys at law shall exercise restraint and tact.
6. Attorneys at law shall avoid public manifesting of their personal relationship to the client, their closest persons or any other participants of the proceedings.
7. A negative attitude of the client towards the opponent shall not affect the attitude of the attorney at law who shall act tactfully and without any prejudice to the opposing party, while at the same time refraining from actions which could lead to the tightening of the dispute.

Article 39

Attorneys at law discussing in public the cases conducted by them or other attorneys at law shall not undermine the dignity of the profession. They shall exercise restraint, tact and professional distance to the case, while any information about their practice shall be restricted to the necessary and material needs.

Chapter 6

Joint Practice

Article 40

Attorneys at law practising in the organisational unit in which internal regulations (procedures, rules) are contrary to the Code shall comply with the Code.

Article 41

Attorneys at law coordinating the work of a team of attorneys at law or employing other attorneys at law shall not undermine the independence of the profession through substantive interference in the content of the position taken in relation to law or the independence in conducting the case before court or any other adjudicating authority.

Chapter 7

Provision of Legal Assistance to Legal Person or Other Organisational Entity

Article 42

1. Attorneys at law practising under a contract of employment or a contract for the provision of permanent legal assistance to the clients being legal persons shall not:
 - 1) identify their clients' interests with the interests of their clients' bodies, one of them or members of those bodies;
 - 2) identify their clients' interests with the interests of other members of the clients' groups or the interests of their own bodies or members of these bodies; or
 - 3) refuse to provide advice, legal opinions or explanations on the law to any of the bodies of the legal persons concerned, unless the agreements with the clients provide otherwise.

2. The agreement with the client or any separate statement of the client shall indicate the bodies and persons authorised to consult the attorney at law concerned on the position of law as well as on the approval of provided professional services.
3. The agreement with the client may provide for the need to take into account by the attorney at law, besides client's interest, also the interest of the client's group.
4. Attorneys at law shall provide their position papers on the law, presented upon the request of one of the client's bodies, to other bodies upon their request, unless the agreement with the client provides otherwise. The agreement with the client may regulate the provision of such a position paper to bodies or persons from the client's group.
5. In the event of a difference in opinions between the clients' bodies or members of their bodies, attorneys at law shall not act as arbitrators or members of the team settling the dispute. This shall also apply to the bodies of the clients' groups and their members. Instead, attorneys at law shall make an effort to eliminate this difference.
6. Sections 1-5 above shall apply mutatis mutandis to the cases where legal assistance is provided to an organisational entity not being a legal person.

Part 4

Relations with the Client

Article 43

1. Attorneys at law shall not undertake cases unless so instructed by clients or persons representing the clients, or unless the matter is entrusted to them under the law by court or other authority.
2. When undertaking to provide legal assistance but before commencing any professional duties, attorneys at law shall determine with the client the scope of services, the retainer or the method of its calculation, and also the rules to settle any other fees and expenses.
3. Upon the client's request, attorneys at law shall inform the client of their professional third-party insurance as well as about the authority receiving complaints concerning professional practice.
4. Upon extending a substitute power of attorney, attorneys at law shall enable the substitute to adequately prepare to take on responsibilities, while the substitute shall confirm the acceptance of the power of attorney.

Article 44

1. Upon the client's request, attorneys at law shall inform the client about the progress of the case and its outcome and, in particular, about the consequences of the steps taken during the proceedings.
2. Attorneys at law shall obtain the client's approval for performance of procedural actions including filing of a lawsuit, recognition of the claim, settlement or revocation of the claim.
3. Attorneys at law shall notify clients about the groundlessness or inexpediency of lodging an appeal against the decision closing the case before the given instance.

Article 45

Relations between attorneys at law and clients shall be based on trust. The loss of confidence can be the basis for termination of a power of attorney by the attorney at law.

Article 46

Attorneys at law shall not refuse clients, upon their request and after the completion of the legal relationship under which a given case was handled, the documents or case pleadings received from them in the cases which attorneys at law conducted. Attorneys at law shall not make the issuance of such documents dependant upon the client's settlement of receivables.

Article 47

When abandoning the conduct of the case, attorneys at law shall make it in time to enable the client to avail themselves of the legal assistance of another person in order to protect their interests.

Part 5

Relations with Courts and Authorities

Article 48

Attorneys at law shall ensure that their conduct does not undermine the dignity of the court, authority or other institution before which they appear, and also that their appearance does not undermine the dignity of any person involved in the proceedings.

Article 49

Attorneys at law shall not publicly manifest their personal relationship to members of the judiciary, authorities or other institutions before which they appear, nor to any client or person affected by their actions.

Part 6

Relations with Other Attorneys at Law

Article 50

1. Attorneys at law shall be loyal to and shall demonstrate solidarity towards the members of the bar.
2. Attorneys at law shall refrain from actions infringing the duty of loyalty towards other attorneys at law cooperating with them in the law firm even after the termination of this cooperation.
3. Attorneys at law shall not act to deprive other attorneys at law of employment or loss of clients, unless so required by their duties provided by the law or admitted hereunder as a form of client acquisition.

Article 51

Attorneys at law shall not communicate with the opponent of their clients, without first contacting the opponent's legal representative or a defence attorney who is an attorney at law or a person with whom under the law an attorney at law may jointly practise the profession, unless so agreed with that representative or defence attorney.

Article 52

1. Attorneys at law may reprimand members of the bar who behave contrary to the rules of professional ethics.
2. Attorneys at law may file a complaint about the professional practice of other attorneys at law solely with the competent authority of the bar.
3. It is prohibited for attorneys at law to comment to third parties in a negative way on the professional practice of other attorneys at law, unless the need or duty to make such an assessment arises from official or bar duties.

4. Attorneys at law issuing an opinion on the professional practice by other attorneys at law shall hear the opinion of those attorneys at law and maintain objectivity and sobriety.

Article 53

1. Before commencing professional duties, attorneys at law shall learn from the client whether other attorneys at law act for them in the same case. Should it be the case, attorneys at law shall:
 - 1) inform the other attorneys at law of the fact of taking up the provision of legal assistance in the given matter;
 - 2) set out with the other attorneys at law and the client the terms and conditions of cooperation, if this is justified by the interests of the client or the client so expects;
 - 3) not take actions aimed at undermining client's confidence in the other attorneys at law.
2. Before commencing professional duties, attorneys at law shall learn from the client whether other attorneys at law acted for them in the same case and in similar capacity.
3. In the cases referred to in sections 1 and 2 above, the current or former attorneys at law providing legal assistance to the client inform the attorneys at law acceding to and taking over a case of the relevant circumstances of the case and, upon the client's request, immediately hand over to them the case documents.
4. Attorneys at law acceding to or taking over a case shall inform the client about the need to settle any claims with the current or former attorney at law, legal representative or defence attorney.

Article 54

Whenever urgent legal assistance is needed, attorneys at law shall immediately – after providing the service – inform thereof the current legal representative or defence attorney of the client.

Article 55

Attorneys at law who are legal representatives in a case relating to the practice of the profession against other attorneys at law shall immediately notify about their appointment the dean of the regional chamber of attorneys at law, to which the other attorney at law belongs and, through them, they shall try to settle the matter out of court.

Article 56

In cases of disputes as to the practice of the profession between attorneys at law, prior to referring the matter to the court, they shall attempt to reach an out-of-court settlement after notifying, and with the participation of, the dean of the regional chamber of attorneys at law whereto one of them belongs. The notification obligation shall rest upon the attorney at law initiating the dispute.

Article 57

Attorneys at law should assist each other and offer advice in the matters relating to the profession, as long as this does not jeopardise the interests of clients or does not go beyond the boundaries of polite assistance.

Article 58

Attorneys at law shall notify the opponent's legal representative in dispute over procedural actions, taken or intended, leading to the postponement or suspension of the proceedings or the change of order of cases.

Article 59

Attorneys at law transferring cases to other attorneys at law shall make available to them without undue delay any case information and documents.

Part 7

Relations with the Bar

Article 60

Attorneys at law shall have the right and duty to vote and to perform functions in the bodies of the bar.

Article 61

1. Attorneys at law shall demonstrate respect and loyalty towards the bodies of the bar.
2. Attorneys at law shall adhere to the resolutions of the bar.

Article 62

1. Attorneys at law shall cooperate with the bodies of the bar in the matters relating to its functioning and tasks as well as in the matters relating to the practice of the profession and compliance with the Code.
2. Attorneys at law summoned by the dean, deputy dean, the disciplinary ombudsman or their deputy, the disciplinary court as well as inspectors, shall report upon the deadline and, when unable to do so, they shall justify their failure to appear.
3. Attorneys at law summoned to a hearing by the bodies referred to in section 2 above on the matters arising from the statutory responsibilities of the bar or the Code shall act accordingly within the prescribed deadline.

Article 63

When performing the duties of a mentor, attorneys at law should exercise due diligence in order to properly prepare a legal trainee to practise, passing on to them the knowledge and experience, and shaping their ethical attitude.

Article 64

1. When performing duties in the bar, attorneys at law shall follow the responsibilities of the bar as well as the professional interests of attorneys at law and the will of voters.
2. The attorneys at law who have been entrusted with some function in the bodies of the bar, shall perform these duties fairly and with the utmost due diligence, in particular:
 - 1) they may not use this function for their own affairs or benefits, or for those closest to him;
 - 2) they should treat all members of the bar equitably; and
 - 3) within the limits of their responsibilities and capabilities, they shall serve the members of the bar with information, assistance and advice.
3. Attorneys at law tendering a letter of resignation from the function entrusted shall justify it.
4. The attorneys at law who have been lawfully suspended from the right to practise the profession, shall abstain from exercising any functions in the bar, which means the need to resign and not stand in elections until receiving a pardon.

Article 65

The attorneys at law who, when performing their duties in the bar, have received information on personal affairs of other attorneys at law, may disclose and use such information solely for the correct discharge of their duties.

Article 66

Attorneys at law shall pay timely the membership fee, the professional third-party insurance as well as any fees, fines and costs of disciplinary proceedings, and other amounts due to the bar.