

Slovenia

Protection of Country Names

Legal basis of such protection (whether trademark or non-trademark law):

- 1) Slovenian Industrial Property Act (ZIL): Article 43 (1) g, h and 43 (3)
- 2) Slovenian Companies Act (ZGD): Article 14, 15.

Applicable procedures (pre-registration , post-registration, other):

Pre-registration procedures define Article 43 (3): A sign which is ineligible for registration because it contains the name or abbreviation of the name, State armorial bearing, emblem, flag or other official sign of the Republic of Slovenia, or a part thereof, which is in breach of the provisions of paragraph (1)(j) and (k), shall not be used in the course of trade without the consent of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.

The Trademark post-registration procedures are not in the competence of the SIPO.

Scope of protection accorded to country names in the field of registration of trademarks (the sign applied for registration as a trademark is a country name, or the country name forms part of the sign):

It is the same in both cases.

Protection is granted for the official name of the country only or also for variations of those names, such as common names, adjectives or abbreviations.

For the registration of the Name of the country the Republic of Slovenia the permission of their government have to be provided. Other variations (e.g. slovenian, slovenski, slovensko, etc.-) can be registered without authorization, providing they are not in the conflict with the provisions of article 43 (1) g, h.