



Slovakia – packaging EPR

Last checked 17 August 2026 **Keeper** Desk open — keeper wanted

Status ● Draft, not yet peer-checked

THE SHORT VERSION

Slovakia is the source of the most-repeated claim in European packaging compliance: *under 100 kg you don't need a representative*. It is **half right**, and the half matters. Section 54(6) of the Waste Act genuinely releases a producer under 100 kg from the **Slovak** representative duty in § 27(4)(b) — that is real law, not a myth. It cannot disapply Art. 45(3), which has no threshold anywhere in the Union. So below 100 kg you drop the Slovak representative and keep the European one, plus registration, records and a 28 February report.

Does it apply to me?

Slovakia regulates packaging through **Act No. 79/2015 Coll. on Waste**. Packaging is a specified product subject to extended producer responsibility, and the producer definition is drawn widely enough to catch a small web shop without ambiguity.

The definition includes a person that brings, or has transported, packaged goods across the Slovak border and then places them on the Slovak market or into distribution. A foreign web shop shipping directly to Slovak customers is squarely inside it. There is no interpretive work to do here.

You ship to Slovak consumers, no Slovak establishment

Yes. Register before placing anything on the market. What else you owe depends on the 100 kg line.

You're established elsewhere in the EU

Caught by [Art. 45\(3\)](#) first sentence, no threshold — and by § 27(18)–(20) nationally if you are at or above 100 kg.

You're established outside the EU

Caught nationally. § 27(18)–(20) turns on having no registered office or place of business in Slovakia, not on EU membership.

You place less than 100 kg a year

Released from specified national duties including the Slovak representative — see [below](#). Registration, records and the annual report survive. So does [Art. 45\(3\)](#).

You're established in Slovakia

No representative needed. Register and contract an OZV in the normal way.

This desk covers EPR only. Everything below is the **producer** role. If your own name, logo or brand is on the packaging, PPWR also makes you the **manufacturer** of it: a separate set of EU-level conformity duties that took effect on 12 August 2026 and is not country-specific. See [manufacturer or producer?](#)

The 100 kg question, properly

We have spent nineteen desks warning that national thresholds do not relieve EU duties. Slovakia is where that warning has to be made with more care than usual, because here the national relief is **genuine and specific** — and the English-language sources get it wrong in **both** directions.

What § 54(6) actually does

A producer placing **less than 100 kg** of packaging on the Slovak market in a calendar year is released from specified duties — including the duty in **§ 27(4)(b)**, which is the **Slovak national authorised-representative requirement**, and most recovery, financing and public-information obligations.

That is a real statutory release, with a section number, and anyone telling you the 100 kg rule is a myth is wrong. But it is a release from **Slovak** law, and Slovak law is not the only law operating here.

Duty	Source	Under 100 kg?
Slovak authorised representative	§ 27(4)(b), Act 79/2015	Released by § 54(6)
OZV contract / recovery and financing	Act 79/2015	Released — most of it
Registration in the producer register	§ 30, Act 79/2015	Still owed
Packaging records	Act 79/2015	Still owed — five years
Annual report by 28 February	Act 79/2015	Still owed
EPR authorised representative	Art. 45(3) PPWR	Still owed — no threshold, anywhere

A national exemption cannot disapply a directly applicable EU regulation. Slovakia has no power to introduce a threshold into Art. 45(3), and it has not tried to — § 54(6) predates the PPWR and speaks only to the Slovak duty it names.

So the two errors in circulation are mirror images. Sources that say *"under 100 kg, no representative at all"* are describing the position before 12 August 2026. Sources that deny the Slovak rule exists — and we have seen two English-language EPR vendor sites do exactly that — are also wrong, and in a way that costs a small seller money they need not spend on an OZV contract.

The correct answer, for a seller under 100 kg today: **no Slovak representative, no OZV, but still register, still keep records, still report by 28 February, and still appoint an Art. 45(3) representative.** Go to the Slovak text if anyone tells you otherwise.

Register before you sell

Section 30 requires the producer to apply for entry in the relevant producer register **before** placing the specified product on the Slovak market. The Ministry of Environment maintains the Registers of

Producers of Specified Products, including a separate **Register of Packaging Producers**, and publishes an official packaging application form.

Registration is NOT removed by the under-100 kg route. This is the single most important sentence on this page for a small seller who has read that they are "exempt". You are not exempt from the register; you are released from specified other duties.

Changes to registered information must also be notified within the statutory deadlines — so a change of address, contact or representative is its own obligation rather than something to tidy up at the annual report.

The § 27 mandate

Where the national duty applies — at 100 kg or more — Slovakia's requirements for the mandate itself are unusually specific, and worth reading before you sign anything.

Under **§ 27(18)–(20)**, a producer without a registered office or place of business in Slovakia appoints a representative established in Slovakia. The mandate must be:

Requirement	Detail
Written	Not an exchange of emails
Comprehensive	Must cover ALL rights and duties under the Waste Act
At least one year	A minimum term, fixed by statute

The minimum one-year term is a commitment to price in. You cannot appoint a Slovak representative for a trial quarter to see how the market goes. Factor a full year of fees into the decision to enter Slovakia at all.

Note also how strong the transfer is: the representative **acts in its own name** and is responsible for the producer's obligations. That is closer to the French *mandataire* model than to the German one, where the representative sits alongside duties you retain personally.

The OZV route

At **100 kg or more** per calendar year, household-type packaging duties are normally fulfilled collectively through an authorised **OZV** — an Organisation of Producer Responsibility for packaging. This covers financing and organising collection, recovery and recycling.

Individual compliance is possible only in restricted circumstances — broadly where the producer's packaging waste will **not** form part of municipal waste — and requires an authorisation. For a small postal seller shipping to consumers, that condition will not be met: parcels become household waste. Expect to use an OZV once you cross 100 kg.

The 100 kg test is a full calendar year. Crossing it in October moves you into the OZV and national-representative regime for that year, not from the following January. If you are anywhere near the line, decide early rather than discovering it in December.

What it costs

Item	What we have
Universal packaging EPR tariff	None published by the Ministry
OZV charges	Commercial — may include setup fees, annual minimums, material-based fees and reporting charges
Slovak representative (at 100 kg+)	Commercial, and with a minimum one-year term
Under 100 kg	May avoid collective EPR and the national representative fee entirely — but expect administrative or advisory costs for registration and the annual report
Art. 45(3) representative	Not published. Owed regardless of the 100 kg line

Slovakia is genuinely cheaper below 100 kg than most member states are at any volume — that is the practical value of § 54(6) and it should not be talked away. The cost that remains is the EU representative, which no national provision can remove.

28 February, and five years

Obligation	Detail
Packaging records	Maintained continuously and retained five years
Annual report to the Ministry	By 28 February , for the previous calendar year
Collective compliance	The OZV normally handles statutory consolidated reporting; you report to the scheme under your contract

Both of those survive the under-100 kg route. Indeed for a seller relying on § 54(6) the records are **more** important than usual, not less: they are what demonstrates you stayed under the line for the whole calendar year, and the whole relief rests on that being provable.

Labelling

Material-composition marking is required only where the producer **chooses** to mark the packaging, unless another product-specific rule applies. Slovakia imposes no general on-pack duty for ordinary shipping packaging.

Deposit beverage packaging and certain single-use plastic products have separate requirements. If either is in your range, treat it as a distinct workstream.

The EU harmonised sorting label under Art. 12(1) applies from **12 August 2028** at the earliest, with the artwork fixed by implementing acts. Do not design for it yet.

If you don't

Enforcement is by the environmental authorities and the **Slovak Environmental Inspectorate** under Act No. 79/2015 Coll.

The specifically Slovak risk is the one this whole page is about: a business that read "under 100 kg, exempt" and concluded it needed to do **nothing**. That business is unregistered — which § 30 requires before placing anything on the market — has no packaging records, has filed no annual report, and has no Art. 45(3) representative. Four failures from one plausible sentence.

Art. 44(4) applies here as everywhere: no making available before the register entry exists.

Known traps

Reading "under 100 kg, exempt" as exempt from everything

§ 54(6) releases specified duties including the Slovak representative in § 27(4)(b). Registration under § 30, packaging records and the 28 February report all survive — and so does Art. 45(3).

Believing sources that deny the Slovak rule exists

The opposite error, and we have seen it in print twice. § 54(6) is real. A seller under 100 kg who signs an OZV contract they did not need has been mis-sold.

Skipping registration because you're under the line

§ 30 requires the application **before** placing the specified product on the market, and the under-100 kg route does not remove it.

Crossing 100 kg mid-year and thinking it starts in January

It is a full calendar-year test. Crossing it in October puts you in the regime for that year.

Not budgeting for the one-year minimum mandate

§ 27 fixes a minimum term of at least one year. There is no trial period for a Slovak representative.

Discarding records after a year

Five years, maintained continuously — and they are the evidence that the under-100 kg relief applied to you at all.

Sources

The Waste Act carries this page, and we have given section numbers throughout because this is the country where being able to point at the text matters most.

1 Act No. 79/2015 Coll. on Waste (<https://www.slov-lex.sk/>)

The national statute. Source for the producer definition covering a person that brings or has packaged goods transported across the Slovak border and places them on the market or into distribution; § 30 requiring application for register entry before placing on the market; § 27(18)–(20) on the representative — established in Slovakia, written mandate, all rights and duties under the Act, minimum one year, acting in its own name; and **§ 54(6) exempting a producer below 100 kg from the duty in § 27(4)(b)** and from most recovery, financing and public-information obligations

2 Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic — Registers of Producers of Specified Products (<https://www.minzp.sk/>)

Official. Maintains the Register of Packaging Producers and publishes the official packaging application form. Source for the 28 February annual report and the five-year record-retention requirement. The Slovak Environmental Inspectorate enforces

3 **Regulation (EU) 2025/40 (PPWR) — EUR-Lex** (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ%3AL_202500040)

Read in full, 14 August 2026. Source for **Art. 45(3)** imposing the EPR authorised-representative duty with no threshold — the provision a national exemption cannot reach — and for Art. 3(1)(15) (c)–(d), Art. 44(2), Art. 44(4) and Art. 12(1)

4 **European Commission — PPWR Frequently Asked Questions, 2nd edition** (https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/faq-packaging-and-packaging-waste-regulation-ppwr_en)
DG ENV Unit B01, August 2026 (KH-01-26-068-EN-N). Read in full



An association in formation, Vienna. Everything here is
shared experience with a date attached — not legal advice.