

## Estonian Court System

Chapter XIII of [the Constitution of the Republic Estonia](#) [1] provides the basis for court administration. [The Courts Act](#) [2] contains a more detailed regulation of court administration.

Estonia has a three-level court system. County courts and administrative courts adjudicate matters in the first instance. Appeals against decisions of courts of first instance shall be heard by courts of second instance. Courts of appeal are courts of second instance (sometimes also called circuit courts or district courts). The courts of appeal are situated in Tartu and Tallinn. The Supreme Court, situated in Tartu, is the court of the highest instance.

A statement of claim is filed with the court of first instance, an appeal with the court of second instance and an appeal in cassation with the court of third or the highest instance. A matter shall be heard in the Supreme Court only after all previous court instances have been passed. The filing of an appeal is governed by respective codes of court procedure.

The decisions of courts of first and second instances shall be made public in full in [the database of court statistics and court decisions](#) [3].

All reasoned judgements of the Supreme Court shall be published in Part III of the State Gazette. Supreme Court decisions are electronically available on [the homepage of the Supreme Court](#) [4].

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jQuery('.menu-mlid-13086 a').attr('target', '_blank');
jQuery('head').append(""); /* ** Initializing */ // Variables jQuery(document).ready(function() { url =
window.location.href.split('kohus.ee')[1]; if(typeof url == 'undefined') url =
window.location.href.split('wwwkohus.rik.ee')[1]; url = url.split('#')[0]; //lang =
jQuery('html').attr('lang'); keel = document.getElementsByTagName("html")[0].getAttribute("lang");
override = 0; }); // Styles jQuery('head').append( jQuery('').attr('href',
'/sites/www.kohus.ee/files/elfinder/css/mobiilne.css') ); /* ** Methods */ // Function to set cookies
function setCookie(cname, cvalue, exdays) { document.cookie = cname + "=" + cvalue + "; path=/";
var d = new Date(); d.setTime(d.getTime() + (exdays*24*60*60*1000)); var expires =
"expires="+d.toUTCString(); document.cookie = cname + "=" + cvalue + ";" + expires + "; path=/";
} // Function to get cookies function getCookie(cname) { var name = cname + "="; var ca =
document.cookie.split(';'); for(var i=0; i
'); // Kui avaleht, siis näitame menüüd, muidu peidame alguses ära ja näitame sisu
//if(!jQuery('html').hasClass('front-page')) jQuery('#mobile-menu').fadeOut(20);
jQuery('#mobile-menu').load('/'+keel+'/sitemap #site-map .content > .site-map-menu', function() {
// to desktop button jQuery('#mobile-wrapper #mobile-menu').append('
'); jQuery('#mobile-wrapper .to-desktop').click(function() { // mobiili versiooni toggle
jQuery('html').removeClass('mobile'); jQuery('#mobile-menu').fadeOut(200);
//jQuery('#body').css('visibility','visible'); jQuery('#body').fadeIn('300');
jQuery('#social').fadeIn('300'); override = 1; setCookie('isMobile', 0, 365); //window.name = 0;
jQuery('html').css('overflow-y','auto'); }); // CSS and DOM fixes
jQuery('#mobile-wrapper').css('top',(jQuery('#body').offset().top)+'px'); jQuery('#mobile-menu li
a').wrap('
'); jQuery('#mobile-menu li').removeClass('expanded'); jQuery('#mobile-menu
li').removeClass('leaf'); jQuery('#mobile-menu li > ul').css('display','none'); jQuery('#mobile-menu li
a[href="'+url+'"]').parents('ul').css('display',''); jQuery('ul:first',jQuery('#mobile-menu li
a[href="'+url+'"]').parent('div').parent('li')).css('display',''); jQuery('#mobile-menu li
a[href="'+url+'"]').parents('li').addClass('active-trail'); jQuery('#mobile-menu li
a[href="'+url+'"]').addClass('active'); jQuery('#mobile-menu li').prepend('
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); jQuery('.language-switcher-locale-url').clone().appendTo( "#mobile-menu" );
jQuery('#mobile-menu
.language-switcher-locale-url').addClass('mobile-lang').removeClass('language-switcher-locale-url');
jQuery('#mobile-menu').append('x
'); jQuery('#mobile-menu').append('
'); // Close mobile
menu button jQuery('#mobile-menu .close').click(function() { jQuery('#mobile-menu').fadeOut(200);
//jQuery('#body').css('visibility','visible'); jQuery('#body').fadeIn('300');
jQuery('#social').fadeIn('300'); override = 1; setCookie('isMobile', 1, 365); //window.name = 1; }); //
Adding no-children class to menu elements jQuery('#mobile-menu li').each(function() {
if(jQuery('ul',jQuery(this)).length<=0) { jQuery(this).addClass('no-children'); } }); // Open/close
menu jQuery('.light-blue-down').click(function() { if(!jQuery(this).parent().hasClass('no-children')) {
if(jQuery(this).parent().hasClass('active-trail') || jQuery(this).parent().hasClass('active')) {
jQuery(this).parent().removeClass('active-trail');
//jQuery('ul:first',jQuery(this).parent()).css('display','none');
jQuery('ul:first',jQuery(this).parent()).slideUp(); } else { jQuery(this).parent().addClass('active-trail');
//jQuery('ul:first',jQuery(this).parent()).css('display','');
jQuery('ul:first',jQuery(this).parent()).slideDown(); } } }); // Menu complete - to show or not?
if(show==1) { showMenu(); } }); } // Function: Use to show menu (whether loaded or not) function
showMenu() { if(jQuery('body #mobile-menu ul').length<1) { loadMenu(1); //console.log('läks
laadimisele'); } else { //console.log('läks näitamisele'); jQuery('#mobile-menu').fadeIn(200);
jQuery('#body').fadeOut('300'); jQuery('#social').fadeOut('300');
jQuery('#mobile-wrapper').css('top',jQuery('#body').offset().top)+'px');
jQuery('html').css('overflow-y','scroll'); } } // Make telephone numbers to telephone links function
telephoneLinks() { jQuery('td').each(function() { var klass = (jQuery(this).attr('class') ?
jQuery(this).attr('class') : ' '); // kui td klassi sees on string "telefon" teeme sisust telefoni lingi
if(klass.search('telefon') != -1) { jQuery(this).wrapInner( " " ); } }); } // Check if is front page, also
adds front-page class to html element function isFrontPage() { if(jQuery('#front_blocks').length > 0)
{ jQuery('html').addClass('front-page'); return 1; } else return 0; } // Improving search capabilities
for both versions function improveSearch() { // Wrap search with div container
if(jQuery('.search-wrapper #header .search').length<1) jQuery('#header .search').wrap('
'); if(jQuery('.otsingu-liik').length<1) { jQuery('#header .search').append('ÜldotsingTöötaja otsing');
jQuery('#search-block-form').submit(function(event) { if(jQuery('#header .otsingu-liik').val() ==
'tootaja-otsing') { event.preventDefault(); otsisona = jQuery('#edit-search-block-form--2').val();
otsi(); } }); } } // Switch between Mobile and Desktop views function switchBetweenViews() {
if(override == 0) { if(jQuery(window).width() < 1070 || isMobileActive() == 1) {
jQuery('html').addClass('mobile'); var wrapper_length = jQuery('#mobile-wrapper').length;
if(wrapper_length<1 && jQuery('html').hasClass('front-page')) showMenu(); else
if(wrapper_length<1) loadMenu(0); } else { jQuery('html').removeClass('mobile'); } } } // Initialize
main mobile view functionality function initializeThis() { // to-mobile button
if(jQuery('#to-mobile').length<1) jQuery('#body').append('
'); jQuery('#to-mobile').click(function() { // mobiili versiooni toggle jQuery('html').addClass('mobile');
override = 1; setCookie('isMobile', 1, 365); //window.name = 1;
jQuery('html').css('overflow-y','scroll'); if(jQuery('#mobile-wrapper').length<1) loadMenu(0);
if(jQuery('html').hasClass('front-page')) showMenu(); if(jQuery('.otsingu-liik').length<1) {
jQuery('#header .search').append('ÜldotsingTöötaja otsing');
jQuery('#search-block-form').submit(function(event) { if(jQuery('#header .otsingu-liik').val() ==
'tootaja-otsing') { event.preventDefault(); otsisona = jQuery('#edit-search-block-form--2').val();
otsi(); } }); } }); // to-desktop button if(jQuery('.to-desktop').length<1) jQuery('#body').append('
'); jQuery('#body .to-desktop').click(function() { //jQuery('.otsingu-liik').remove(); // mobiili versiooni
toggle jQuery('html').removeClass('mobile'); override = 1; setCookie('isMobile', 0, 365);
//window.name = 0; jQuery('html').css('overflow-y','auto'); }); // Open menu button
if(jQuery('.open-menu').length<1) jQuery('#body').append('
'); jQuery('.open-menu').click(function() { showMenu(); }); } /* ** Main controller */ // Automatically
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switching versions jQuery( window ).resize(function() { switchBetweenViews(); });
jQuery(document).ready( function() { // Initialize main mobile view functionality initializeThis(); var
frontPage = isFrontPage(); /* ** Cross-page memory of mobile/desktop preference */ // Preference:
mobile, Current page: not frontpage if(isMobileActive()==1 && frontPage==0) { loadMenu(0);
jQuery('html').addClass('mobile'); telephoneLinks(); } // Preference: mobile, Current page: frontpage
else if(isMobileActive()==1 && frontPage==1) { showMenu(); jQuery('html').addClass('mobile'); }
else telephoneLinks(); // Switch between views depending on browser width switchBetweenViews(); //
Improving search capabilities for both versions improveSearch() }); /* ** MOBIILSED TABELID */
function checkWidth() { jQuery( "table" ).each(function( index ) { var curr_table = jQuery(this); var
table_con_width = curr_table.parent().width(); var table_width = jQuery('tbody',this).width();
if(table_con_width < table_width){ if(curr_table.hasClass('show')) { //console.log(table_con_width+'to
mobile'+table_width); curr_table.removeClass('show').addClass('invisible');
jQuery('.table.no-'+index).removeClass('invisible').addClass('show'); } } else {
if(curr_table.hasClass('invisible')) { //console.log(table_con_width+'back-to-normal'+table_width);
curr_table.removeClass('invisible').addClass('show');
jQuery('.table.no-'+index).removeClass('show').addClass('invisible'); } } }); } function toggle3(i) {
var hide = jQuery('.show.no-'+i); var show = jQuery('.invisible.no-'+i);
hide.removeClass('show').addClass('invisible'); show.removeClass('invisible').addClass('show'); }
function toMobileTables() { jQuery('tr:nth-child(odd)').addClass('odd');
jQuery('tr:nth-child(even)').addClass('even'); jQuery('tr:first-child').has('th').addClass('tbl-header');
jQuery('tr:first-child').addClass('first'); jQuery('tr:last-child').addClass('last'); jQuery(
"table:not(.interaktiivne)" ).each(function( index ) { var curr_table = jQuery(this); var klassid =
curr_table.attr('class'); var table_con_width = curr_table.parent().width(); var table_width =
jQuery('tbody',this).width(); if(table_con_width < table_width){ var overlap = 1; } else { var overlap
= 0; } if(overlap==1) curr_table.addClass('pc-table no-'+index+' invisible'); else
curr_table.addClass('pc-table no-'+index+' show'); var curr_table_html = curr_table[0].outerHTML;
jQuery(this).after(curr_table_html); jQuery(this).before('Toggle</Va>
'); /* Headings to columns */ var i = 1; jQuery('tr th', this).each(function() { var curr_td = jQuery('tr
td:nth-child('+i+')', curr_table).not('[colspan]'); if(jQuery('tr th:nth-child('+i+')',
curr_table).text().trim().length>2) curr_td.prepend(""+jQuery('tr th:nth-child('+i+')',
curr_table).text()+': '); else curr_td.prepend(""+jQuery('tr th:nth-child('+i+')', curr_table).text()+"");
i++; //console.log('i'); }); /* HTML markup change - from tables to divs */ jQuery('caption',
curr_table).each(function() { var text_align = jQuery(this).css('text-align'); jQuery(this).replaceWith('
'+this.innerHTML+'
'); }); jQuery('td', curr_table).each(function() { var text_align = jQuery(this).css('text-align');
jQuery(this).replaceWith("'+this.innerHTML+'
'); }); jQuery('th', curr_table).each(function() { jQuery(this).replaceWith("'+this.innerHTML+'
'); }); jQuery('tr:nth-child(odd)', curr_table).each(function() { jQuery(this).replaceWith('
'+this.innerHTML+'
'); }); jQuery('tr:nth-child(even)', curr_table).each(function() { jQuery(this).replaceWith('
'+this.innerHTML+'
'); }); jQuery('.tr:first-child',this).has('div.th').remove(); jQuery('.tr:first-child',this).addClass('first');
jQuery('.tr:last-child',this).addClass('last'); jQuery('thead', curr_table).replaceWith('
'+jQuery('thead',this).html()+
'); jQuery('tbody', curr_table).each(function( index ) { jQuery(this).replaceWith('
'+jQuery(this).html()+
'); }); jQuery('tr:nth-child(even)', curr_table).each(function() { jQuery(this).replaceWith('
'+this.innerHTML+'
'); }); curr_table_contents = jQuery(this).html(); if(overlap==1) curr_table.replaceWith('
'+curr_table_contents+'
'); else curr_table.replaceWith("'+curr_table_contents+'
'); }); checkWidth(); } jQuery(document).ready(function() { toMobileTables(); }); /* mobiilsed tabelid
toggle */ jQuery(window).resize(function() { checkWidth(); }); window.onload = function() {
checkWidth(); }; /* end of mobiilsed tabelid toggle */ /* end of mobiilsed tabelid */
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**Source URL:** <https://www.kohus.ee/en/estonian-courts/estonian-court-system>

#### Links:

[1] <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/127042011002>

[2] <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/121062014012>

[3] [https://www.riigiteataja.ee/kohtuteave/maa\\_ringkonna\\_kohtulahendid/main.html](https://www.riigiteataja.ee/kohtuteave/maa_ringkonna_kohtulahendid/main.html)

[4] <http://www.nc.ee/?id=11>