

## Staffing farce at the Intellectual Property Office

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***After Andrej Šifrer was not selected as the Director of the Intellectual Property Office, the Office is without a boss as of today***

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The former director of the Intellectual Property Office, Luka Novak, was dismissed as of 31 August [2013], but the government has not appointed a new director.

What is more, as of 1 September [2013], no one has the powers to run the office, the Economy Ministry told us on Friday, announcing that the mandate would be sorted out in the coming days.

Although the Human Resources Accreditation Council approved the candidacy of musician Andrej Šifrer, the appointment did not take place at Thursday's government meeting due to "some procedural complication", Šifrer explained in our article "***Šifrer: My candidacy was approved***".

"Staffing in the civil service is a mixture of inertia and negative selection. In a body that should be a leading institution in helping the economy in times of crisis, this should not be the case," commented former director of the office, Jurij Žurej, and continued:

"Someone should reflect on the fact that in three and a half years, the fourth director of the office will have come to this post, and at the same time, the fifth Minister of the Economy will have taken the post of Minister in charge of the economy. It is not normal that I have had the longest tenure as Director of the Office with two and a half years. In well-regulated Western European countries, directors are in office for ten years or more because it is a professional and not a political post."

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<https://www.finance.si/8346353/Kadrovska-farsa-na-Uradu-za-intelektualno-lastnino>