# Creditreform ⊆ Rating

Rating Object		Rating Information	
Slovenská	sporitelňa, a.s. (Group)	Long Term Issuer Rating / Outlook:	Short Term:
		A+ / stable	L2
Creditreform ID:	9110012895	Stand Alone Rating: -	
		Type: Update / Unsolicited	
Rating Date:  Monitoring until:  Rating Methodology:	06 September 2024 withdrawal of the rating CRA "Bank Ratings v.3.3"	Rating of Bank Capital and Unsecured Deb	t Instruments:
	CRA "Rating of Bank Capital and Unsecured Debt Instruments v.2.2"	Preferred Senior Unsecured (PSU):	A+
	CRA "Environmental, Social and Governance Score for Banks v.1.1"  CRA "Rating Criteria and Definitions v.1.3"	Non-Preferred Senior Unsecured (NPS):	-
	CRA "Institutional Protection Scheme Banks v1.0"	Tier 2 (T2):	BBB+
Rating History:	www.creditreform-rating.de	Additional Tier 1 (AT1):	-

#### **Rating Action**

## Creditreform Rating affirms Slovenská sporitelňa, a.s.'s Long-Term Issuer Rating at A+ (Outlook: positive)

Creditreform Rating (CRA) affirms Slovenská sporitelňa, a.s.'s Long-Term Issuer Rating at A+. The rating outlook is positive. CRA affirms Slovenská sporitelňa, a.s.'s Preferred Senior Unsecured Debt at A+ and Tier 2 Capital at BBB+.

The ratings of Slovenská sporitelňa, a.s. are equalized with those of the parent Erste Group Bank AG.

Please find a complete list of rating actions regarding the bank at the end of this rating update.

#### **Analysts**

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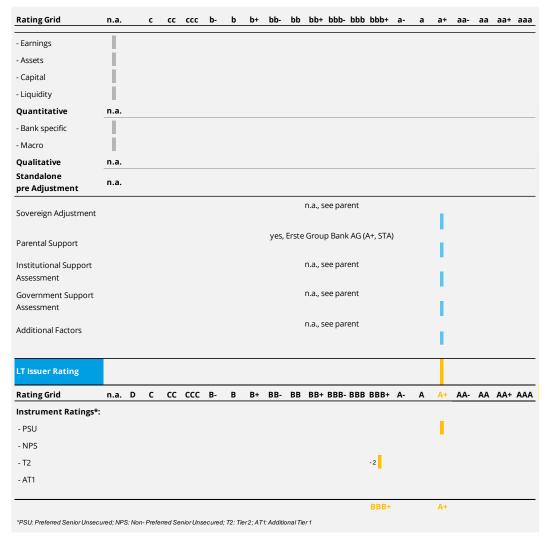
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#### **Key Rating Drivers**

Rating equalization with Erste Group Bank AG due to inclusion into Erste Group Bank AG's
consolidation perimeter (for Key Rating Drivers of the parent entity, see rating report Erste
Group Bank AG from 6th September 2024)

# Creditreform ⊆ Rating

#### **Executive Summary**



Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a. is a subsidiary of Erste Group Bank AG. Thus, in accordance with our rating methodology, the rating is derived from the Long-Term Issuer Rating of the parent company.

Creditreform Rating (CRA) affirms the long-term issuer rating of Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a. at A+. The rating outlook is stable.

The rating of Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a. is prepared on the basis of group (Erste Group Bank AG) consolidated accounts.

## Creditreform C Rating

#### **Company Overview**

Founded in 1825 as the first savings bank in Slovakia, Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a. is now one of the largest banks in the country. It has over 2.3mn customers and is the market leader in terms of both total assets and lending volume. In 2001, Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a. was taken over by Erste Group Bank AG and is therefore also part of its cross-guarantee system.

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#### **Outlook**

The outlook of the Long-Term Issuer Rating of Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a. is stable in line with that of its parent Erste Group Bank AG.

Best-case scenario: AA-

Worst-case scenario: A

#### Please note:

The scenarios are based on information available at the time of the rating. Within the forecast horizon, circumstances may occur that could lead to a change of the rating out of the indicated range.

#### **Scenario Analysis**

In a scenario analysis, the bank is able to reach a Long-Term Issuer Rating of AA- in the "Best-Case-Scenario" and a Long-Term Issuer Rating of A- in the "Worst-Case-Scenario". The ratings of Bank Capital and Senior Unsecured Debt would respond similarly based on our rating methodology. These ratings are especially sensitive to changes in total equity and to the bank capital and debt structure in general.

Best- and Worst-Case-Scenario are in line with that of the parent Erste Group Bank AG

## Creditreform C Rating

#### **Appendix**

Bank ratings Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a.

The bank ratings are dependent on a host of quantitative and qualitative factors. An improvement in either sub-category may result in a higher rating score.

Long-Term Issuer / Outlook / Short-Term A+ / L2 / stable

Bank Capital and Debt Instruments Ratings Slovenská sporitelňa, s.a.

The ratings for bank capital and debt instruments are inter alia dependent on subordination and relative size of the instrument class, based on the long-term issuer rating of the bank.

Preferred Senior Unsecured (PSU):

Non-Preferred Senior Unsecured (NPS):

Tier 2 (T2):

Additional Tier 1 (AT1):

#### **Rating History**

Please consult our website www.creditreform-rating.de for additional information regarding the dates of publication.

Figure 1: Rating History

Long-Term Issuer Rating	Rating Date	Result
Initialrating	14.12.2018	A- / stable / L2
Rating Update	29.11.2019	A / stable / L2
Monitoring	24.03.2020	A / NEW / L2
Rating Update	16.10.2020	A- / stable / L2
Rating Update	27.08.2021	A / stable / L2
Rating Update	28.09.2022	A / positive/ L2
Rating Update	30.08.2023	A+ / stable / L2
Rating Update	06.09.2024	A+ / stable / L2
Bank Capital and Debt Instruments	Rating Date	Result
<u> </u>	Rating Date 14.12.2018	Result A- / BBB- / BB+
Bank Capital and Debt Instruments		
Bank Capital and Debt Instruments Senior Unsecured / T2 / AT1 (Initial)	14.12.2018	A- / BBB- / BB+
Bank Capital and Debt Instruments  Senior Unsecured / T2 / AT1 (Initial)  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1	14.12.2018 29.11.2019	A- / BBB- / BB+ A / A- / BBB / BBB-
Bank Capital and Debt Instruments  Senior Unsecured / T2 / AT1 (Initial)  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1	14.12.2018 29.11.2019 24.03.2020	A- / BBB- / BB+ A / A- / BBB / BBB- A / A- / BBB / BBB- (NEW)
Bank Capital and Debt Instruments  Senior Unsecured / T2 / AT1 (Initial)  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1	14.12.2018 29.11.2019 24.03.2020 16.10.2020	A- / BBB- / BB+ A / A- / BBB / BBB- A / A- / BBB / BBB- (NEW) A- / n.r. / BBB- / n.r.
Bank Capital and Debt Instruments  Senior Unsecured / T2 / AT1 (Initial)  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1  PSU / NPS / T2 / AT1	14.12.2018 29.11.2019 24.03.2020 16.10.2020 27.08.2021	A- / BBB- / BB+ A / A- / BBB / BBB- A / A- / BBB / BBB- (NEW) A- / n.r. / BBB- / n.r. A / n.r. / BBB / n.r.

## Creditreform C Rating

#### **Tables Group (if applicable)**

Figure 2: Income statement<sup>1</sup> | Source: eValueRate / CRA

Income Statement (EUR m)	2023	%	2022	2021	2020
Income					
Net Interest Income	523	+17,8	444	428	434
Net Fee & Commission Income	208	+8,0	192	174	147
Net Insurance Income	-	-	-	-	-
Net Trading & Fair Value Income	24	-7,4	25	6	9
Equity Accounted Results	0	<-100	1	2	1
Dividends from Equity Instruments	1	-2,9	1	1	1
Other Income	6	-32,8	9	4	5
Operating Income	761	+13,2	672	615	596
Expense					
Depreciation and Amortisation	34	-1,0	35	33	37
Personnel Expense	177	+9,1	162	155	158
Tech & Communications Expense	56	+10,5	50	48	44
Marketing and Promotion Expense	16	+5,4	15	15	14
Other Provisions	1	-48,4	2	4	0
Other Expense	62	+6,6	58	53	79
Operating Expense	345	+7,3	322	308	333
Operating Profit & Impairment					
Operating Profit	416	+18,6	350	307	264
Cost of Risk / Impairment	17	-56,1	38	5	116
Net Income					
Non-Recurring Income	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Recurring Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Pre-tax Profit	399	+27,7	312	302	148
Income Tax Expense	90	+29,3	70	74	40
Discontinued Operations	-	-	-	-	-
Net Profit	309	+27,2	243	228	108
Attributable to minority interest (non-controlling interest)	0	> +100	0	0	0
Attributable to owners of the parent	309	+27,3	243	228	108

Figure 3: Key earnings figures | Source: eValueRate / CRA and Pillar III

Income Ratios (%)	2023	%	2022	2021	2020
Cost Income Ratio (CIR)	45,36	-2,49	47,86	50,10	55,78
Cost Income Ratio ex. Trading (CIRex)	46,81	-2,93	49,74	50,62	56,67
Return on Assets (ROA)	1,17	+0,14	1,02	0,98	0,52
Return on Equity (ROE)	12,53	+1,40	11,14	11,12	6,03
Return on Assets before Taxes (ROAbT)	1,51	+0,19	1,32	1,30	0,71
Return on Equity before Taxes (ROEbT)	16,19	+1,86	14,33	14,73	8,23
Return on Risk-Weighted Assets (RORWA)	-		•	1	ı
Return on Risk-Weighted Assets before Taxes (RORWAbT)	-	1	ı	ı	ı
Net Financial Margin (NFM)	2,30	+0,20	2,10	2,20	2,40
Pre-Impairment Operating Profit / Assets	1,57	+0,09	1,48	1,33	1,27

Change in %- Points

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Data by our data provider eValueRate, which is standardized for analytical reasons. Thus, the used data and the resulting figures do not have necessary to match the presentation of the bank, which refers to this and all subsequent tables and figures.

# Creditreform ⊆ Rating

Figure 4: Development of assets | Source: eValueRate / CRA

Assacts (ELID ass)	2022	0/	2022	2024	2020
Assets (EUR m)	2023	%	2022	2021	2020
Cash and Balances with Central Banks	3.031	> +100	1.255	2.907	1.717
Net Loans to Banks	10	>+100	0	50	0
Net Loans to Customers	18.743	+5,5	17.774	15.535	14.579
Total Securities	4.141	-0,8	4.172	3.927	3.695
Total Derivative Assets	85	-9,9	94	64	94
Other Financial Assets	-	-	-	-	-
Financial Assets	26.009	+11,7	23.294	22.484	20.086
Equity Accounted Investments	51	+50,0	34	37	28
Other Investments	1	-19,3	1	2	2
Insurance Assets	-	-	-	-	-
Non-current Assets & Discontinued Ops	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible and Intangible Assets	163	-0,4	164	165	169
Tax Assets	70	-1,9	72	69	77
Total Other Assets	165	-9,0	181	398	345
Total Assets	26.460	+11,4	23.746	23.154	20.706

Figure 5: Development of asset quality | Source: eValueRate / CRA and Pillar III

Asset Ratios (%)	2023	%	2022	2021	2020
Net Loans to Customers / Assets	70,84	-4,01	74,85	67,09	70,41
Risk-weighted Assets <sup>1</sup> / Assets	-	-	-	-	-
NPL <sup>2</sup> / Loans to Customers <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
NPL <sup>2</sup> / Risk-weighted Assets <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Potential Problem Loans <sup>4</sup> / Loans to Customers <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves <sup>5</sup> / NPL <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Risk / Loans to Customers <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Risk / Risk-weighted Assets <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Risk / Total Assets	0,06	-0,10	0,16	0,02	0,56

Change in %- Points

Figure 6: Development of refinancing and capital adequacy | Source: eValueRate / CRA

2.465	+13,0	2.180	2.051	1.792
23.995	+11,3	21.566	21.104	18.914
153	+0,1	153	131	101
32	-16,9	39	43	32
20	>+100	7	2	23
-	-	-	=	-
-	-	-	-	ı
23.790	+11,3	21.366	20.928	18.758
194	+70,1	114	37	73
-	-	-	-	-
121	-31,7	177	78	105
4.658	+55,8	2.990	1.947	2.052
17.580	+3,9	16.913	15.973	14.869
1.237	+5,4	1.174	2.893	1.659
2023	%	2022	2021	2020
	1.237 17.580 4.658 121 - 194 23.790 - 20 32 153 23.995	1.237 +5,4 17.580 +3,9 4.658 +55,8 121 -31,7 194 +70,1 23.790 +11,3 20 >+100 32 -16,9 153 +0,1 23.995 +11,3	1.237 +5,4 1.174 17.580 +3,9 16.913 4.658 +55,8 2.990 121 -31,7 177 194 +70,1 114 23.790 +11,3 21.366 20 >+100 7 32 -16,9 39 153 +0,1 153 23.995 +11,3 21.566	1.237     +5,4     1.174     2.893       17.580     +3,9     16.913     15.973       4.658     +55,8     2.990     1.947       121     -31,7     177     78       -     -     -     -       194     +70,1     114     37       23.790     +11,3     21.366     20.928       -     -     -     -       20     >+100     7     2       32     -16,9     39     43       153     +0,1     153     131       23.995     +11,3     21.566     21.104

Change in %-Points
I RWA: Pillar3, EUCR1
2 NPL: Gross; Non-Performing Loans of the categories Households, Non-Financial Corporations, Other Financial Corporations as per Pillar3, EUCR1
3 Loans to Customers: Gross; Households, Non-Financial Corporations, Other Financial Corporations as per Pillar3, EUCR1
4 Potential Problem Loans: Stage 2; Households, Non-Financial Corporations, Other Financial Corporations as per Pillar3, EUCR1
5 Reserves: Impairment & Provisions and Collateral & Guarantees; Households, Non-Financial Corporations, Other Financial Corporations as per Pillar3, EUCR1

# Creditreform C Rating

Figure 7: Development of capital and liquidity ratios | Source: eValueRate / CRA and Pillar III

Capital Ratios and Liquidity (%)	2023	%	2022	2021	2020
Total Equity / Total Assets	9,31	+0,13	9,18	8,86	8,66
Leverage Ratio <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Common Equity Tier 1 Ratio (CET1) <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Tier 1 Ratio (CET1 + AT1) <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Total Capital Ratio (CET1 + AT1 + T2) <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
CET1 Minimum Capital Requirements <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-

Change in %-Points

1 Pillar3 EU KM1

2 Regulatory Capital Ratios: Pillar3 EU KM1

### Creditreform C Rating

#### Regulatory

Creditreform Rating AG was neither commissioned by the rating object nor by any other third party for the rating. The analysis took place on a voluntary basis by Creditreform Rating AG and is to be described in the regulatory sense as an unsolicited rating. The following table clarifies the level of participation of the rated entity (rating object):

Unsolicited Credit Rating	
With Rated Entity or Related Third Party Participation	No
With Access to Internal Documents	No
With Access to Management	No

The rating is based on publicly available information and internal evaluation methods for the rated bank. The quantitative analysis is based mainly on the latest annual accounts, interim reports, other investor relations information of the bank, and calculated key figures by eValueRate / CRA.

The information and documents processed met the requirements of the rating system of Creditreform Rating AG as published on the website www.creditreform-rating.de. The rating was carried out on the basis of the following methodologies and Rating Criteria and Definitions (v1.3):

- Bank ratings (v3.3)
- Rating of bank capital and unsecured debt instruments (v2.2)
- Institutional Protection Scheme Banks (v1.0)
- Environmental, Social and Governance Score for Banks (v1.1)

The complete presentation of the rating methodologies used by Creditreform Rating AG and the basic document Rating Criteria and Definitions are published on our homepage:

https://www.creditreform-rating.de/en/about-us/regulatory-requirements.html

On 06 September 2024, the rating was presented by the analysts to the rating committee and adopted in a resolution.

The rating result was communicated to Slovenská sporitelňa, a.s., and the preliminary rating report was made available to the bank. There was no change in the rating.

The rating is valid until withdrawal and is subject to monitoring from the rating date (see cover page). The rating will be comprehensively reviewed at least once every year. Within this period, the rating can be updated.

In 2011 Creditreform Rating AG was registered within the European Union according to EU Regulation 1060/2009 (CRA-Regulation). Based on the registration Creditreform Rating AG (CRA) is allowed to issue credit ratings within the EU and is bound to comply with the provisions of the CRA-Regulation.

### Creditreform C Rating

Rating Endorsement Status: The rating of Slovenská sporitelňa, a.s. (Group) was not endorsed by Creditreform Rating AG from a third country as defined in Article 4 (3) of the CRA-Regulation.

#### **Conflict of Interests**

No conflicts of interest were identified during the rating process that might influence the analyses and judgements of the rating analysts involved or any other natural person whose services are placed at the disposal or under the control of Creditreform Rating AG and who are directly involved in credit rating activities or approving credit ratings and rating outlooks.

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- Rating ancillary service(s) for the rated entity or/and for the related third party
- Credit Service ancillary service(s) for the rated entity or/and related third party.
- No ancillary services in the regulatory sense were carried out for this rating object.

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Rules on the Presentation of Credit Ratings and Rating Outlooks

The approval of credit ratings and rating outlooks follows our internal policies and procedures. In line with our policy "Rating Committee," all credit ratings and rating outlooks are approved by a rating committee based on the principle of unanimity.

To prepare this credit rating, CRA has used following substantially material sources:

- 1. Aggregated data base by eValueRate
- 2. Annual Report and interim reports
- 3. Investors relations information and other publications
- 4. Website of the rated bank
- 5. Public and internal market analyses
- 6. Internet research

There are no other attributes and limitations of the credit rating or rating outlook other than displayed on the CRA website. Furthermore CRA considers satisfactory the quality and extent of information available on the rated entity. In regard to the rated entity Creditreform Rating AG regarded available historical data as sufficient.

Between the disclosure of the credit rating to the rated entity and the public disclosure no amendments were made to the credit rating.

The "Basic data" information card indicates the principal methodology or version of methodology that was used in determining the rating, with a reference to its comprehensive description.

# Creditreform ⊆ Rating

In case where the credit rating is based on more than one methodology or where reference only to the principal methodology might cause investors to overlook other important aspects of the credit rating, including any significant adjustments and deviations, Creditreform Rating AG explains this fact in the credit rating and indicates how the different methodologies or these other aspects are taken into account in the credit rating. This information is integrated in the credit rating report.

The meaning of each rating category, the definition of default or recovery and any appropriate risk warning, including a sensitivity analysis of the relevant key rating assumptions, such as mathematical or correlation assumptions, accompanied by worst-case scenario credit ratings as well as best-case scenario credit ratings are explained in mentioned methodologies and / or in the credit rating report.

The date at which the credit rating was released for distribution for the first time and when it was last updated including any rating outlooks is indicated clearly and prominently in the rating report or in the "Basic data" card as a "Rating action"; first release is indicated as "initial rating", other updates are indicated as an "update", "upgrade or downgrade", "not rated", "confirmed", "selective default" or "default".

In the case of a rating outlook, the time horizon is provided during which a change in the credit rating is expected. This information is available in the rating report or the "Basic data" information card.

In accordance to Article 11 (2) EU-Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 registered or certified credit rating agency shall make available in a central repository established by ESMA information on its historical performance data, including the ratings transition frequency, and information about credit ratings issued in the past and on their changes. Requested data are available at the ESMA website: https://cerep.esma.europa.eu/cerep-web/statistics/defaults.xhtml.

An explanatory statement of the meaning of Creditreform's default rates are available in the credit rating methodologies disclosed on the website.

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