



COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**

(VENICE COMMISSION)

### **47<sup>th</sup> PLENARY MEETING (Venice, 6-7 July 2001)**

#### SYNOPSIS

##### The Commission

- welcomed the accession of Armenia to the Commission;
- discussed with Mr Jacques Warin, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe, the possibility of integrating the Universal Encyclopaedia of Human Rights within the framework of the Venice Commission; the Commission also held an exchange of views with Mr Mark Entin, chargé d'affaires of the Russian Federation to the Council of Europe, on the prospects on Russia's accession to the Commission;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Peter Kresak, member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, regarding co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly;
- was informed of progress made concerning the programme of co-operation with Armenia;
- adopted the opinion on the reform of the Armenian Constitution;
- examined the proposed Armenian law on political parties;
- was informed of progress made concerning the programme of co-operation with Azerbaijan;
- examined the proposed law regarding the ombudsman in Azerbaijan;
- was informed of the results of the meeting of the working group on the merger of the Human Rights Chamber and Constitutional Court in Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- adopted two opinions on national minorities in Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- adopted the opinion on the Croatian constitutional law on the rights of minorities;
- adopted the opinion on the amendments to the Croatian Constitution;

- was informed on the subject of the relationship between church and state in Georgia;
- was informed of the request from the Hungarian and Romanian authorities regarding the question of minorities living in neighbouring countries;
- was informed by Ms Rodica Stanoiu, the Romanian Justice Minister, of Romania's request for co-operation on the revision of its constitution;
- was informed of planned constitutional reforms in "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia";
- adopted the opinion on the proposal for a revision of the Ukrainian Constitution;
- adopted the opinion on the draft statute on the Ukrainian judicial system;
- adopted the opinion regarding concept of State ethnic and national policy of Ukraine;
- was informed of the latest constitutional developments in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and held an exchange of views with Mr Dimitrijevic on the form which future co-operation would take;
- was informed by Mr Neithart Hoefler-Wissing, Deputy Director, Political Affairs, United Nations Mission in Kosovo, of the preparation and establishment of a constitutional framework for a provisional government in Kosovo;
- examined the draft Albanian law on the functioning of parliamentary investigation commissions;
- adopted the opinion on electoral legislation in the Ticino Canton, Switzerland;
- adopted the draft revision of the Statute of the Commission;
- endorsed the enhanced co-operation with the Association of Constitutional Courts using the French Language (ACCPUF);
- adopted guidelines on constitutional referendums;
- was informed on progress made regarding the organisation of UniDem seminars, as well as seminars organised under the auspices of the UniDem Campus on legal training for the civil service; and
- confirmed the dates of its next plenary session as 19-20 October 2001.

G. BUQUICCHIO

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