



COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 9 July 2002

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

(VENICE COMMISSION)

### **51<sup>st</sup> PLENARY SESSION (Venice, 5-6 July 2002)**

#### SYNOPSIS

##### The Commission

- held an exchange of views with Ambassador Bernotas, Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the Council of Europe, and with Ambassador Chouraqui, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe, on co-operation between the Committee of Ministers and the Venice Commission;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Erik Jurgens, Member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly, on co-operation with the Assembly;
- took note of the opinions on the draft Law on Political Parties of Armenia which had already been sent to the Armenian authorities;
- was informed of a constitutional referendum in Azerbaijan to be held on 24 August;
- adopted the opinion on certain issues related to the ombudsman institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- adopted the opinion on the draft Law on amendments to the judicial system act of Bulgaria;
- took note of the opinions on the draft revision of the Constitution of Georgia and invited the rapporteurs to continue co-operation with the Georgian authorities;
- endorsed the opinions on the draft laws on the freedom of expression and data protection of Luxembourg;
- asked the Secretariat to prepare in co-operation with the rapporteurs a consolidated opinion on the draft law on the Ombudsman of Luxembourg;

- endorsed the opinions on the draft amendments to the Constitution of Moldova;
- adopted the opinion on the Draft Law on the Constitutional Court of Moldova and corresponding constitutional amendments;
- adopted the opinion on the draft revision of the Constitution of Romania;
- adopted the opinion on the Draft rules of procedure of the Assembly of «The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia »;
- adopted the opinion on the legislation on political parties in Ukraine;
- adopted the Guidelines on Elections drawn up by the Council for Democratic Elections;
- confirmed its opinion on Application of the framework Convention for the protection of national minorities in Belgium in the light of the results of a meeting of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- was informed of the Commission's contribution to the drafting of the Constitutional Charter for Serbia and Montenegro;
- invited its President to express towards the Albanian authorities the concerns of the Venice Commission in relation to the non-implementation of a recent decision of the Constitutional Court of Albania;
- was informed on recent constitutional developments in the United States and in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;
- elected a Vice-President, two members of the Bureau as well as the Chair of the Sub-Commissions on International Law and on the Mediterranean Basin;
- confirmed the dates of its next plenary session as 18-19 October 2002.

G. BUQUICCHIO

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