

Strasbourg, 23 June 2014

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Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

IN CO-OPERATION WITH
THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF FINLAND,
THE PARLIAMENT OF FINLAND
AND THE NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE OF FINLAND

11th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE
OF ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT BODIES
“COMBATING THE MISUSE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES
DURING ELECTORAL PROCESSES”

Thursday and Friday, 26-27 June 2014

Pikkuparlamenti / the Little Parliament
Arkadiankatu 3 – Helsinki, Finland

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Renforcer la réforme démocratique dans les pays du voisinage méridional



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

Financé
par l'Union européenne



Mis en œuvre
par le Conseil de l'Europe

Thursday, 26 June 2014

08:45-09:30 Registration of participants

09:30-10:00 Opening session

Moderated by Ms Kirsi Pimiä, Director, Unit for Democracy, Language Affairs and Fundamental Rights, [Ministry of Justice](#), Finland

- Address by Ms Anna-Maja Henriksson, Minister of Justice, Finland
- Address by Ms Tuija Brax, Member of the [Parliament](#), Chairperson of the Parliament Audit Committee, Finland
- Address by Mr Oliver Kask, Judge, Tallinn Court of Appeal, Member of the [Venice Commission](#), Vice-Chair of the Council for Democratic Elections, Estonia

**10:00-12:00 I. First plenary session:
Defining administrative resources: Legal environment, self-regulation and financing political parties and campaigns**

Moderated by Mr Lauri Tarasti, Former Justice of the Supreme Administrative Court, Expert on electoral legislation, Finland

- *The 2008-2010 reform of the Finnish legislation on political party funding in Finland – Overview*, Ms Tuija Brax, Member of the Parliament, Chairperson of the [Parliament](#) Audit Committee, Finland
- *Administrative resources, public resources, public funds: the need for a common definition of administrative resources during electoral processes – Presentation of the [Report on the misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes](#)*, Mr Manuel Gonzalez Oropeza, Justice, [Electoral Court of the Federal Judiciary](#), substitute member of the [Venice Commission](#), Mexico
- *The State subsidies for political parties in Finland*, Ms Auni-Marja Vilavaara, Director General, [Prime Minister's Office](#), Finland

10:45-11:15 Coffee break

- *The Swedish legislation from 2014 on political party funding*, Mr Johan Hirschfeldt, Former President of the [Svea Court of Appeal](#), Substitute Member of the [Venice Commission](#), Sweden
- *Modalities of financing the political parties and the campaigns and their supervision*, Ms Barbara Jouan, [France's National Commission for Campaign Accounts and Political Financing](#) (CNCCFP), France

12:00-13:00	I. Working groups
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I. 1) *Administrative resources in context: Legal environment addressing use of administrative resources*, Mr Manuel Gonzalez Oropeza, Justice, [Electoral Tribunal of the Federal Judiciary](#), substitute member of the [Venice Commission](#), Mexico (*Working group with **Russian** interpretation*)

I. 2) *Administrative resources in context: Self-regulation, institutional, administrative and political environments, the role of the civil society, addressing misuse of administrative resources*, Mr Lauri Tarasti (*moderator*), Former Justice of the [Supreme Administrative Court](#), Expert on electoral legislation, Finland

I. 3) *Modalities of financing the political parties and the campaigns and their supervision*, Ms Barbara Jouan (*moderator*), [France's National Commission for Campaign Accounts and Political Financing](#) (CNCCFP), France

13:00-14:00 Lunch break (*hosted by the organisers*)

14:00-15:00	II. Second plenary session: Practice – Recurring cases of misuses of administrative resources during electoral processes – Assessing the damages
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Moderated by Mr Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Council of Europe's [Congress of Local and Regional Authorities](#)

- *For more democratic elections*, Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto, Attorney at Law, Member and former President of the [Monaco Bar Association](#), former Member of the [National Council](#) (Parliament) of Monaco, former Head of the Delegations of Monaco to the [Parliamentary Assembly](#) of the Council of Europe and to the OSCE [Parliamentary Assembly](#) and former Vice-President of both Assemblies, Monaco
- *OSCE/ODIHR observation and reporting on misuse of administrative resources in elections*, Ms Tatyana Bogussevich, Senior Election Advisor, [Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights](#) of the OSCE (OSCE/ODIHR)

- OAS Electoral Observation Missions' work on political financing: Assessing the misuse of administrative resources, Mr Sebastián Molano, Specialist of the Department of Electoral Co-operation and Observation (DECO), [Organization of American States](#)

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

15:30-17:00 II. Working groups

II. 1) Recurring cases, Mr Johan Hirschfeldt (*moderator*), Former President of the [Svea Court of Appeal](#), Substitute Member of the [Venice Commission](#), Sweden

II. 2) The initial causes, Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto (*moderator*), Attorney at Law, Member and former President of the [Monaco Bar Association](#), Monaco

II. 3) Good practices in the use of administrative resources, Mr Oliver Kask (*moderator*), Judge, Tallinn Court of Appeal, Member of the [Venice Commission](#), Vice-Chair of the Council for Democratic Elections, Estonia

17:00-17:45 Feedback from the working groups and closing remarks of the first day

17:45-19:00 Evening reception hosted by National Audit Office of Finland
(*Auditor General, LL.D. Mr Tuomas Pöysti*)

Friday, 27 June 2014

09:00-10:30 **III. Third plenary session: Preventing and combating the misuse of administrative resources, a key issue to reinforce confidence in democratic electoral processes**

Moderated by Mr Thomas Markert, Director, Secretary of the [Venice Commission](#)

- *Opening address – The supervision of political funding in Finland*, by Mr Tuomas Pöysti, Auditor General, [National Audit Office](#), Finland
- *External/Internal audit/controls: detecting the misuses of administrative resources*, Mr Yves-Marie Doublet, Deputy Director, Secretariat General, [National Assembly](#) of France, Scientific Expert to [GRECO](#), France
- *Combating the misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes: Russian and international practice in view of the recommendations of the Venice Commission and GRECO*, Mr Sergey Danilenko, Member, [Central Election Commission](#), Russian Federation
- *Monitoring of political party funding in Serbia: legal framework and experience of the 2014 early parliamentary elections in Serbia*, Mr Vladan Joksimović, Deputy Director, [Anti-Corruption Agency](#), Serbia
- *Monitoring the use of public funds by political parties: overview in Estonia*, Mr Kert Karus, Member, [Political Parties Financing Surveillance Committee](#), Estonia

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:30 **III. Working groups**

III. 1) Preventing misuses of administrative resources: Accountability as a key element, Ms Catharina Groop (*moderator*), Anti-corruption expert, [Department of Criminal Policy](#), Ministry of Justice, Finland (*Working group with **French** interpretation*)

- *The Tunisian experience following the Jasmin Revolution in light of the first democratic elections of October 2011*, Mr Chafik Sarsar, President of the [Independent High Authority for Elections](#), Tunisia

III. 2) Combating misuses of administrative resources: sanctioning corruption cases, Mr Sebastián Molano (*moderator*), Specialist of the Department of Electoral Co-operation and Observation (DECO), [Organization of American States](#)

III. 3) Which independent bodies competent for dealing with/monitoring misuses of administrative resources?, Mr Peter Wardle (*moderator*), Chief Executive, [Electoral Commission](#), United Kingdom

12:30-13:00 **Debriefing session with the working groups**

13:00-14:00 Lunch break (*hosted by the organisers*)

14:00-15:15 **Closing session 1/2: Towards guidelines – Good practice, sanctions and looking for operational solutions aimed at improving law, self-regulation and practice**

Co-moderated by Mr Markku Suksi, Professor of Public Law, Department of Law, [Åbo Akademi University](#), Finland

and Mr Thomas Markert, Director of the [Venice Commission](#)

- *Combating the misuse of administrative resources and the A-WEB role in the process*, Mr Kim Jeong-Gon, Director General, [Association of World Election Bodies](#) (A-WEB)

Feedbacks/conclusions presented by the moderators of the various working groups

15:15-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-17:00 **Closing session 2/2: Towards guidelines – Good practice, sanctions and looking for operational solutions
Let the voter freely form her/his opinion!**

Co-moderated by Mr Markku Suksi, Professor of Public Law, Department of Law, [Åbo Akademi University](#), Finland

and Mr Thomas Markert, Director of the [Venice Commission](#)

Discussion and adoption of the 11th EMB Conference Declaration