



Strasbourg, 2 October 2020

**CDL-EL-OJ(2020)002ann-rev**  
Or. Engl.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**  
**(VENICE COMMISSION)**

**69<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**  
**OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC**  
**ELECTIONS**

**7 October 2020 at 2 p.m.**

**REVISED DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**

## **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Council is invited to adopt its agenda as it appears in this document.

## **2. Revised guidelines on the holding of referendums**

The Council is invited to approve the Revised guidelines on the holding of referendums ([CDL\(2020\)030](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Alivizatos, Mr Castellà Andreu, Mr Kask, Ms Kiener, Mr Maiani and Mr Vermeulen, in view of their adoption by the Commission. Comments provided by members of the Council and the Commission have been taken into account in the version submitted for approval.

The Council is invited to hold an exchange of views with Dame Cheryl Gillan, Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy of the Parliamentary Assembly, Rapporteur on [Resolution 2251](#) (2019) Updating guidelines to ensure fair referendums in Council of Europe member States.

## **3. Revised guidelines on political party regulation**

The Council is invited to discuss the draft Revised guidelines on political party regulation ([CDL\(2020\)025](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Castellà Andreu, Mr van Dijk, Mr Esanu and Mr Vermeulen.

## **4. Report on electoral law and electoral administration in Europe**

The Council is invited to take note of the Report on electoral law and electoral administration in Europe ([CDL\(2020\)029](#)), by Mr Krennerich. The Commission will then be invited to take note. The President of the Venice Commission will declare that the report has been taken note of if no objection is raised by members before 30 September 2020.

## **5. Principles on the use of digital technologies and elections**

The Council is invited to hold a preliminary discussion on the draft principles on the use of digital technologies and elections (see [CDL-EL\(2020\)002rev](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Barrett, Ms Kjerulf Thorgeirsdottir, Mr Rubio Nuñez and Mr Vargas Valdez.

## **6. Communication by the Secretariat**

The following activities took place between the 68<sup>th</sup> and 69<sup>th</sup> meetings of the Council for Democratic Elections:

- . participation in an online Seminar: “The future of internet voting” (16 June 2020);
- . participation in the Parliamentary Assembly’s online Hearing: “Membership obligations and the conduct of democratic elections in the context of the pandemic COVID-19” (22 June 2020);
- . legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the first round of presidential elections in Poland, 28 June 2020;
- . participation in an online Hearing: “Modalities of elections during a pandemic” (Georgian Parliament, 3 July 2020);

- . legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the second round of presidential elections in Poland, 12 July 2020;
- . participation in a Videoconference: “Strengthening the electoral legal framework” (Tunisia, 16 July 2020);
- . participation in an online Workshop “Reflections on the recommendations of the report of the European Union Election - Observation Mission for the 2019 presidential and legislative elections” (Tunisia, 16 July 2020);
- . participation in the Conference on e-voting (Romania, 21 July 2020);
- . participation in a Webinar: “Holding elections during a pandemic” (Montenegro, 25 August 2020);
- . participation in an online meeting: “Technical webinar: preparation for elections security” (Georgia, 4 September 2020);
- . participation in the online: “29th ACEEEO Annual Conference, Elections and Communications - The role of Electoral Management Bodies in conducting and facilitating effective communication” (8 September 2020);
- . participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the CAHAI (Ad Hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence) Policy Development Group (PDG) (21-22 September 2020);
- . participation in the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Committee of Experts: Media Environment and Reform (Strasbourg, 23-24 September 2020);
- . participation in the 4th IFES Webinar: “Administering elections in Europe during a pandemic” (24 September 2020).

### **Future activities**

- . Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the parliamentary elections in Georgia, 31 October 2020;
- . Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the presidential elections in the Republic of Moldova, 1 November 2020 (TBC);
- . Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the parliamentary elections in Jordan, 10 November 2020 (TBC);
- . 17<sup>th</sup> EMB conference, on “Electoral law and electoral administration in Europe – Recurrent challenges and best practices” (Online from Strasbourg, 12 and 13 November 2020).

## **7. Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe: Local and regional elections in major crisis situations**

Messrs Dickson and Wiene will introduce the work of the Congress on local and regional elections in major crisis situations.

**8. Co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR**

An exchange of views will take place with the representatives of the OSCE/ODIHR on the possibilities of future co-operation. The OSCE/ODIHR is invited to inform the Council on its current and future activities in the electoral field.

**9. Date of the next meeting**

The Council is invited to fix the date of its next meeting for Thursday, 10 December 2020 at 10.00 am.