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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

**International seminar on Constitutional Control
and the protection of Human Rights**

Tbilisi, Georgia, 17-19 November 1997

organised by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Georgia,
and the Venice Commission
in co-operation with USAID, UNDP and COLPI

S Y N O P S I S

Together with the Georgian Constitutional Court, the Venice Commission organised a workshop on the "Execution of judgments of Constitutional Courts and bodies of equivalent jurisdiction" on 17 and 18 November 1997. In the framework of this workshop, the Venice Commission co-operated with USAID, UNDP and COLPI (Constitutional and Legislative Policy Institute). The aim of this co-operation was to enlarge the financial basis and the scope of work and exchange of experiences. Thus, the workshop benefitted from the participation, in addition to the rapporteurs, of American speakers as well as representatives of Constitutional Courts from Armenia, Kyrghystan, Latvia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine.

The workshop brought together more than 40 people: judges of the Constitutional Court and distinguished lawyers from Georgia, constitutional experts and representatives of the constitutional courts of the Russian Federation, Slovakia and the Supreme Court of the United States.

The presentation of several country reports from old or new established constitutional courts, allowed to bring to the fore not just effects of decisions but also the main guidelines for the respect of constitutional decisions and in considering these elements to concentrate on case-management and on the ways to make constitutional proceedings more efficient from the point of view of their execution.

The contributions and national reports allowed for a fruitful exchange of views between the rapporteurs, old and new established courts, and above all between the latter.

The participants had an exchange of views with the Speaker of the Parliament as well as with the President of the Republic, Mr E Chevarnadze.

The workshop was the subject of great interest by the written and audio-visual media which asked several times for interviews with the participants in the seminar.

This workshop is part of a series of workshops organised in co-operation with newly established courts. The series began in December 1996 and the last workshop for this year will be held in Baku, on 4-5 December. In 1998, other workshops are already planned in Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine.

G. Buquicchio

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